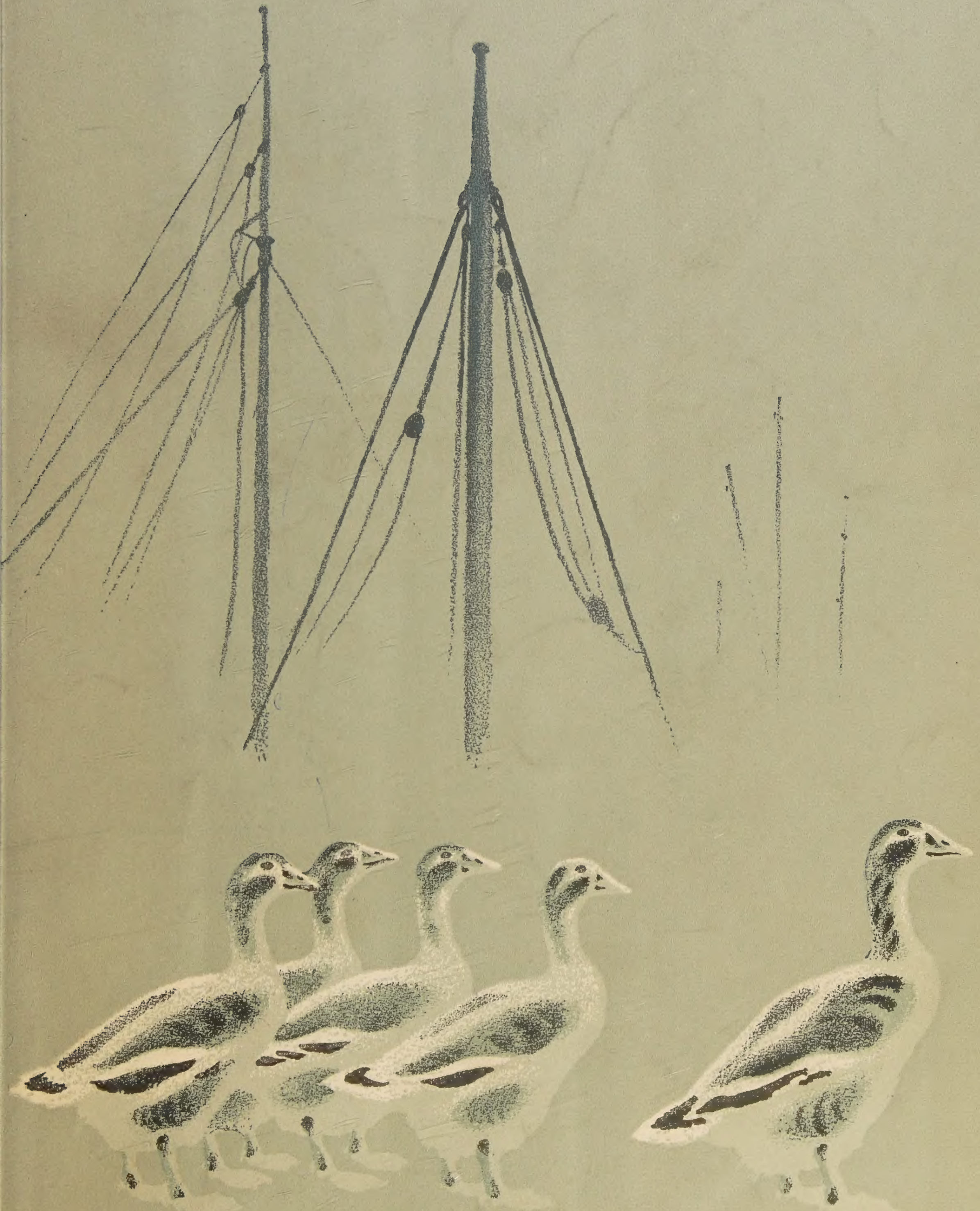
DANISH FOREIGN OFFICE JOURNAL

NUMBER 22

1957



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COMMERCIAL & GENERAL REVIEW

TRAINING BACKED BY TRADITION
The Danish Apprenticeship Act was recently revised in order, among other reasons, to facilitate the absorption of the large war-time age groups. The principle of apprenticeship, by which skill and craftsmanship acquired over generations are transmitted to young people by training under a master, remain unaltered. By F. V. Haugsted . . . . *page 9*

LUR BRAND MEANS GUARANTEED QUALITY
Purchasers of agricultural products are accustomed to the idea that the intertwined lurs stand for something good and reliable. For fifty years the Lur Brand has guaranteed the origin and quality of Danish butter, as also of Danish bacon and cheese. The productive conditions implicit in the use of this brand also govern eggs. By A. Axelsen Drejer . . . . *page 12*

A DAIRYING PRIMER . . . . *page 14*

THE LANGUAGE SITUATION IN GREENLAND
The language situation in Greenland today is the result of 230 years of evolution. Although formerly the Eskimo dialect of West Greenland was the most natural medium for the expression of the ideas, material and spiritual, of Greenland daily life, the economic transitions and technical advances of recent generations are necessitating the introduction of bilingualism, with Danish as the second language. By Finn Gad . . . . *page 15*

BOOK SHELF . . . . *page 19*

DOGS HIS ONE ENEMY
The Post Office enjoys extraordinary popularity in Denmark: with taxpayers because, for one reason, it makes a small profit, and with foreign visitors mostly because of the distinctive red uniform. The vivid colour dates back to the old Copenhagen "foot post", an institution whose record is itself an interesting piece of social history. By Ib Eichner-Larsen . . . . *page 20*

NOVEL ALL-SEASON GREETING CARDS
People who buy greeting cards may just as well buy good ones, argued a Danish publisher when he began producing worthwhile artistic cards fifty years ago. This distinctive industry has developed into a recognized branch of Danish applied art. By Marie-Louise Paludan. . *page 22*

WHAT'S COOKING ON BOARD?
Most of the food consumed by the 900,000 passengers carried annually by Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS) is prepared, from Danish ingredients, in the company's giant kitchen in Copenhagen Airport at Kastrup. The kitchen, catering for every variety of taste and climate, is only a part of the flight service which has helped to establish the SAS reputation. By Ellen Christensen . . . . *page 24*

AN ADDITION TO THE DIET
Preserved milk and cream, the products of milk from tuberculosis-free Danish cows, are being exported in large quantities to countries where milk is not usually a part of the daily diet, thereby providing a valuable addition of animal proteins. By Holger Ellert . . . . *page 26*

SIDELIGHTS ON DENMARK . . . . *page 27*

ROADS FROM MOTOR TAXES
Good results with Danish motor rollers and surfacing machines. By Walther Hjuler . . . *page 28*

ECONOMIC REVIEW . . . . *page 29*

The subject of the last cover design produced by Sikker Hansen for the "Danish Foreign Office Journal" was taken from the picturesque fishing village of Dragør on the island of Amager, Copenhagen's "kitchen garden"

NUMBER 22 . MARCH 1957
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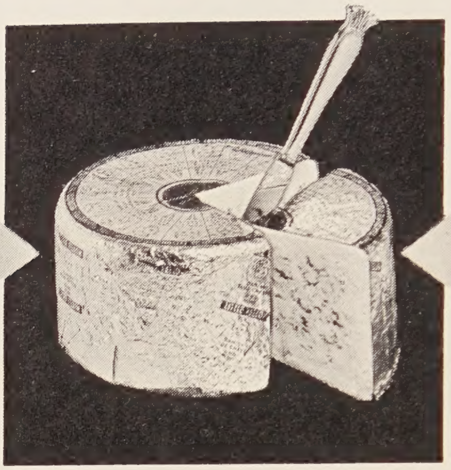

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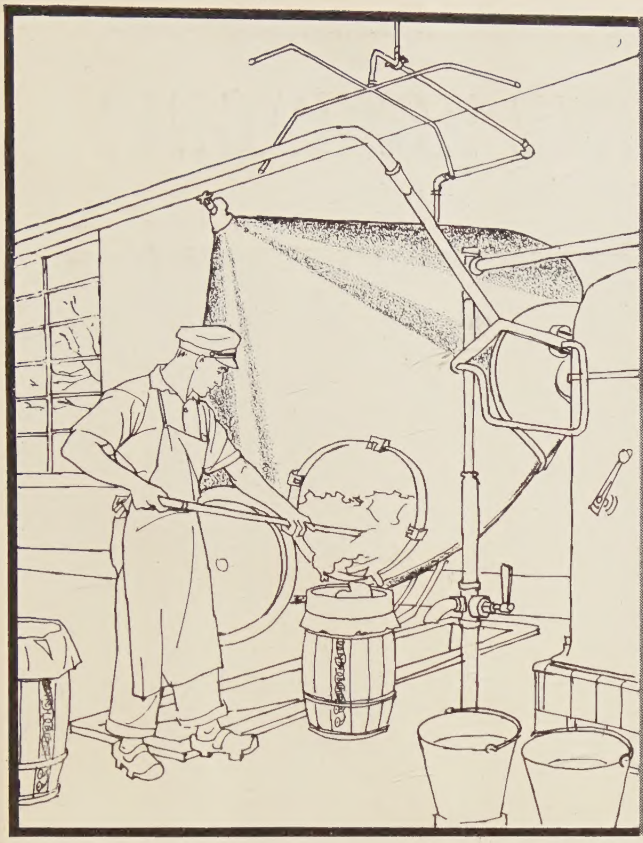

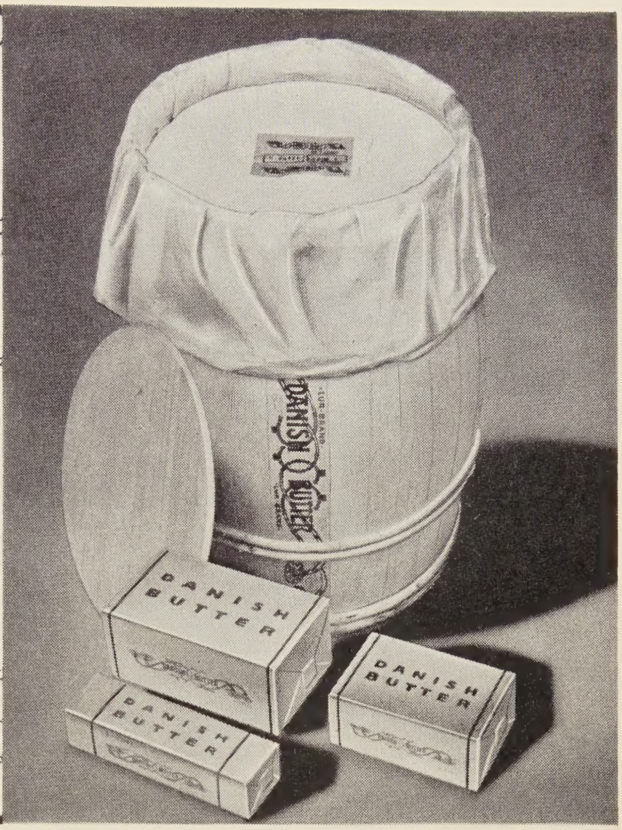
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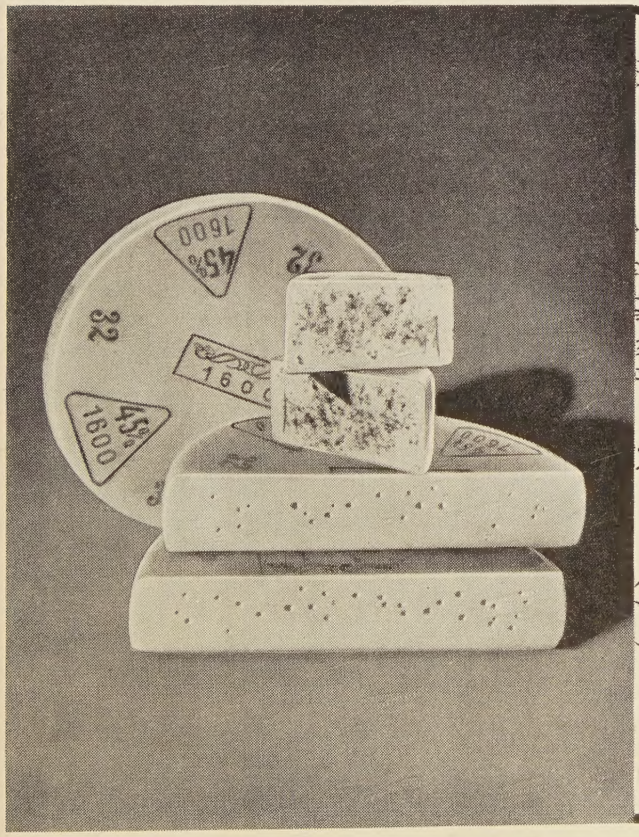
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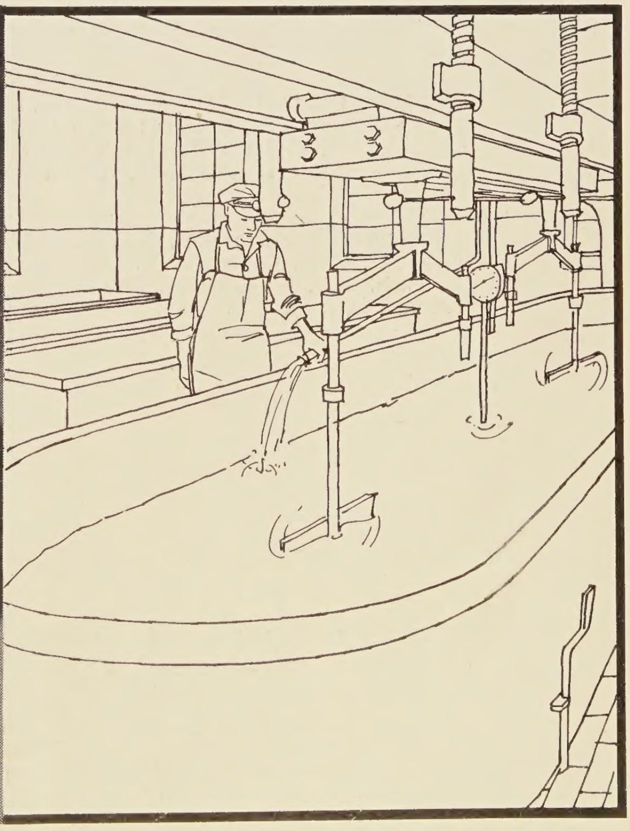

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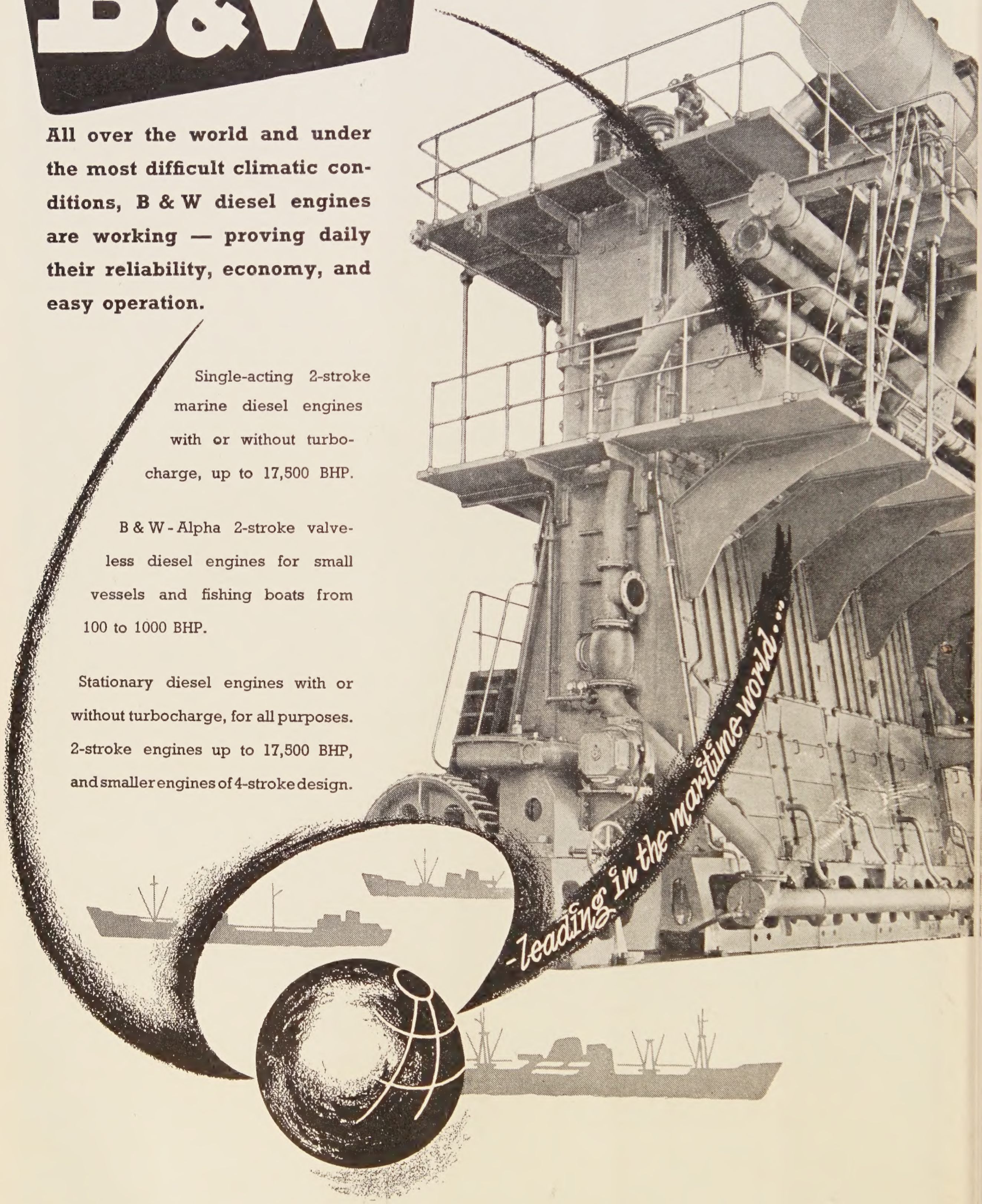
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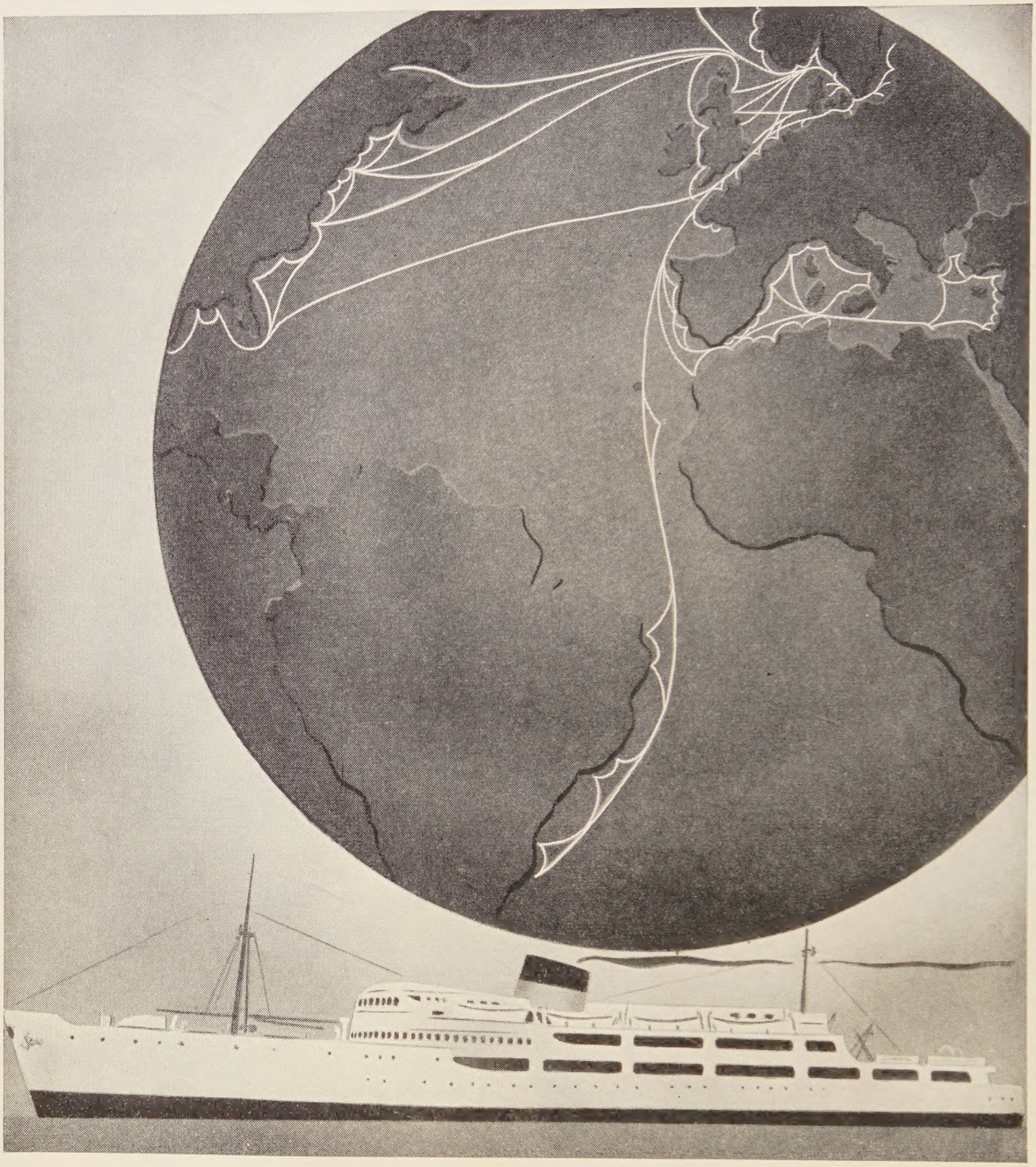

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DANISH FOREIGN OFFICE JOURNAL

NUMBER 22 . MARCH 1957

Training backed by Tradition

By F. V. Haugsted

Director, Government Inspectorate of Handicraft Training

The Danish Apprenticeship Act was recently revised in order, among other reasons, to facilitate the absorption of the large war-time age groups. The principle of apprenticeship, by which skill and craftsmanship acquired over generations are transmitted to young people by training under a master, remain unaltered

The international reputation enjoyed by Danish craftsmanship is in large measure a result of the high standards of training. Building on centuries of tradition, this combines from four to five years of practical training under a master with parallel theoretical education at technical schools, and it concludes with the submission of a test piece. Regulations governing training are laid down in a special Apprenticeship Act.

The system is not of Danish origin, but has deep roots in European history. The contract between master and apprentice which is still the basic feature is mentioned in English laws of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries during the Guild period. Variations developed subsequently, and the Danes went their own ways.

Typical of the Danish system is the fact that though it distinguishes between industries and crafts it makes no distinction in the training of skilled workmen for either. An industrial mechanic engaged in making diesel engines at a factory will have had the same training as a craftsman employed in a small repair shop.

Training under Contract

Handicrafts are industry's parents. Modern industry, employing a large amount of unskilled labour, must have skilled workers for certain vital processes. In a small country such as Denmark, obliged to study quality rather than quantity, the training of skilled labour is extremely important.

The Apprenticeship Act, which was last amended in 1956, applies to young persons between the ages of 14 and 18. Clerks and shop assistants are included but are not required to submit a test piece, its place being taken by the marks obtained at the commercial schools which are attended alongside practical training.

The contract between master and apprentice must be approved by the local authorities and must be registered. It covers wages, duration of apprenticeship, holidays, and the measures to be taken in the event of breach of contract by either side. The employer pays for the theoretical training and insures the apprentice against accident and ill health.

Permission to train apprentices is restricted, and the employer must either have been personally trained in the craft concerned or must employ some other qualified person to provide the training. This is under the continued supervision of special technical committees, which ensure that the establishment provides adequate facilities and that the regulations relating to training are duly observed.

There are at present about 55,000 apprentices in Denmark, but a big increase is expected owing to the high birth rate during the war years. The 1956 amendment took this factor into account.

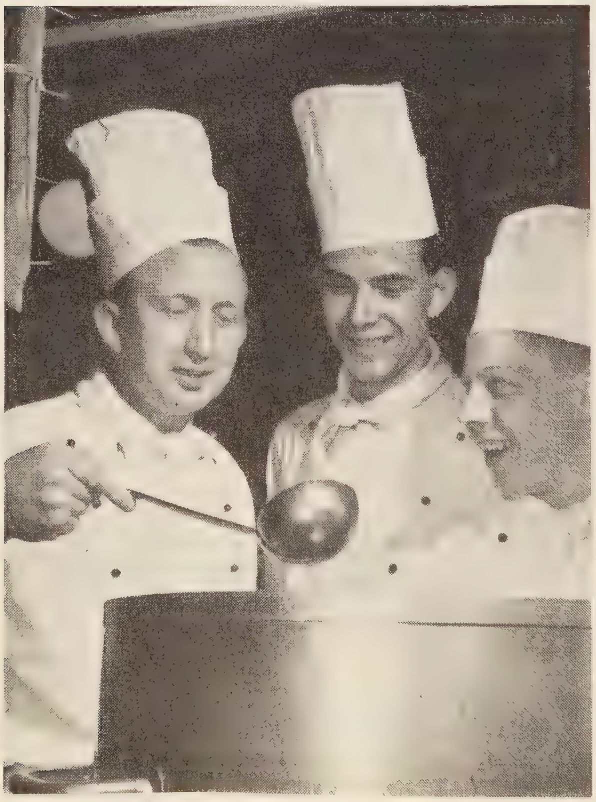
Under the Act the employer must allow the apprentice time off in which to attend a technical school. Attendance in the past took place during the evening up to 8 p.m. (in the winter half year only), but in the course of the next eight years evening schools will be abolished and replaced by day schools all the year round. It is considered that pupils will derive greater benefit from attendance during hours when they are not so tired.

The subjects taught at technical schools are geometry, projection, free-hand drawing, constructional drawing, mathematics, Danish, and knowledge of materials and technology. The schools have separate classes for bakers, butchers, electricians, hairdressers, mechanics, painters, typographers, watchmakers, carpenters, etc. It is not permitted to teach, say, bakers' and engineering apprentices or first- and fourth-year apprentices together. The replacing of "mixed" classes with separate ones may well be called a revolution in Danish technical education. About 200 hours of teaching a year is required.

Preliminary and Mobile Courses

There are over 350 technical and 200 commercial schools, large and small, up and down the country. The tendency is towards enlarging the bigger ones and closing small ones. All are privately owned by local craft and trade associations but are subsidized from public funds, usually also by private organizations, financial institutions, etc., and are subject to inspection by the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

The Apprenticeship Act as now amended will also enable apprentices to obtain chiefly practical training at special workshop schools, which in view of the approaching "bulge" due to the above-mentioned high birth rate will provide a valuable supplement to the existing technical schools. The main purpose, however, is to secure a general improvement in the training.



Many jokes have been made about Danes and eating, most of them unjustified; but at least the training of cook apprentices is as thorough as that given in other trades

Except in applied arts women apprentices are rare; this bright young painter apprentice is one of the few

Another important new feature is provided by the regulation that the technical committees, after consultation with the Government Inspectorate of Handicraft Training, may determine whether education at technical schools shall include preliminary training or other supplement to practical training. Several crafts have already introduced preliminary training, which consists of tuition in the craft's elementary skills.

Quite distinctive are the courses for adults provided by the Jutland Technological Institute, which has equipped six railway wagons as mobile workshops. They are taken from place to place by the State Railways and uncoupled at various stations, where special courses are given.

Advantages of the old System

The fundamental part of an apprentice's training, however, is obtained under a master.

Why, it may be asked, does Denmark continue to maintain the old-fashioned apprenticeship system instead of introducing a system of industrial training based exclusively on schools? There are disadvantages in the apprenticeship system owing to the difficulty of drawing up training plans. Training at a school equipped with workshops, laboratories, and all types of up-to-date machinery and tools can be organized systematically and on rational educational lines. Possibly it provides the best means of studying the details of a craft step by step to a prearranged plan. But there are various reasons for keeping the old system.

Craftsmen are conservative, clinging more than most people to traditions. But there is more in it than that. A student may be taught, say, education or law at a college, but can never be turned into a teacher or lawyer there. For that practice is required. And it is the same with craftsmen. An apprentice taught at a school may know his subject, but it is not so certain that he will be a good craftsman.

A teacher can teach a pupil to handle tools and materials correctly, but it is difficult at a school to teach him the speed and accuracy that will make him successful at his craft. Every trade has its time-honoured traditions, based on special skill and knowledge acquired over generations. It is by daily association with a master that the apprentice picks up the traditions on which a skilled specialist bases his individuality. This solid background is absent in a school.

The statutory test piece which has to be made at the end of the four- or five-year apprenticeship is examined by special committees. In it the apprentice demonstrates the degree of skill he has acquired by producing, entirely on his own, one of the products of his craft: an upholsterer, say, an armchair, a cabinet-maker a bureau, etc. At the same time the occasion provides a test of whether the master has provided adequate training.

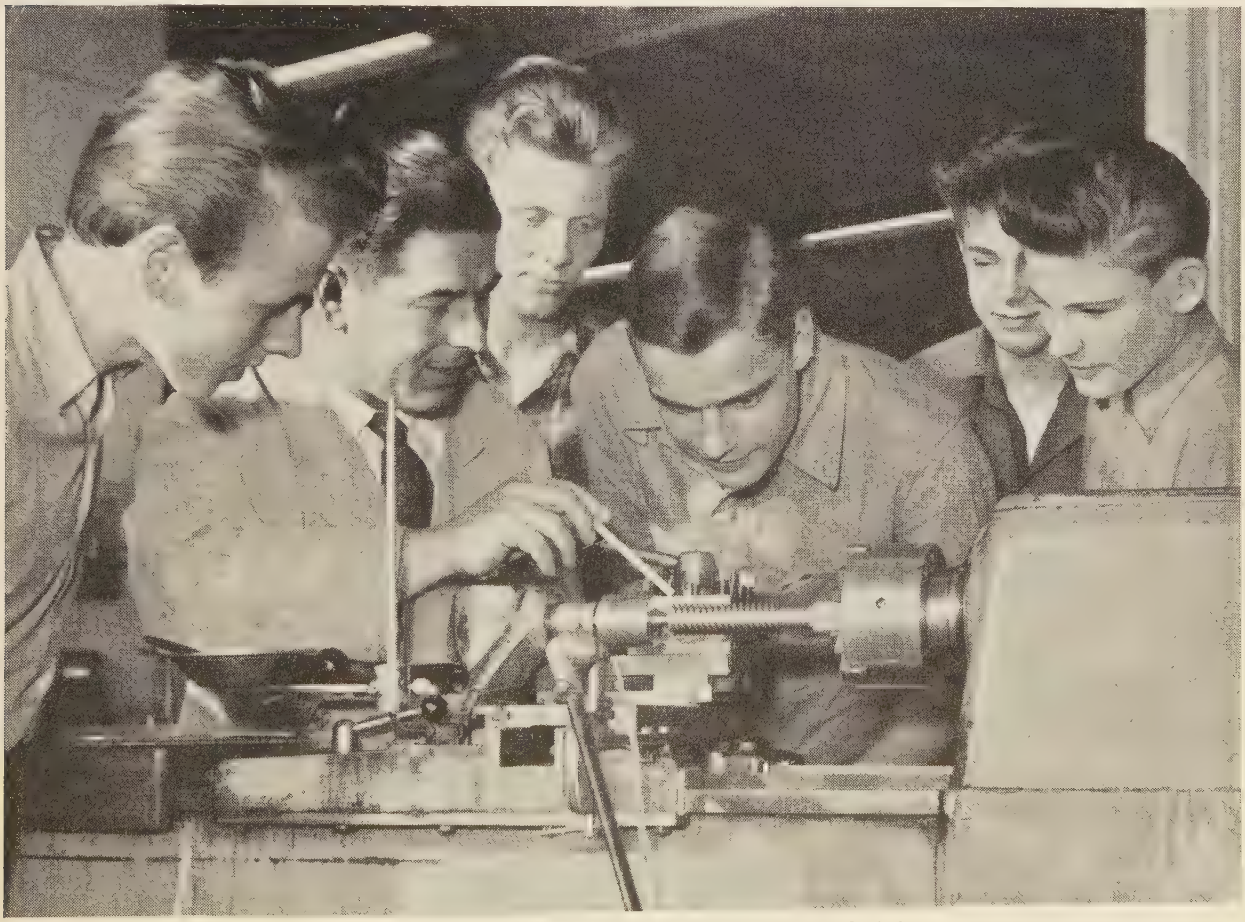
Specialization and Mobility

In a time of rapid technical advance and increasing specialization it may be a disadvantage that a man should spend many years in practical training for a single craft and then, in the event of unemployment, be incapable of transferring to another trade unless he is prepared to devote another four years to learning it. The Danish system is rather rigid and unadaptable to trade and industrial fluctuations. Some consideration has therefore been given to the idea of introducing a system under which skilled craftsmen would be trained as specialists. Such a man would quickly learn a specialized branch of his trade, and in case of unemployment could soon acquire other specialized knowledge which would enable him to find another job.

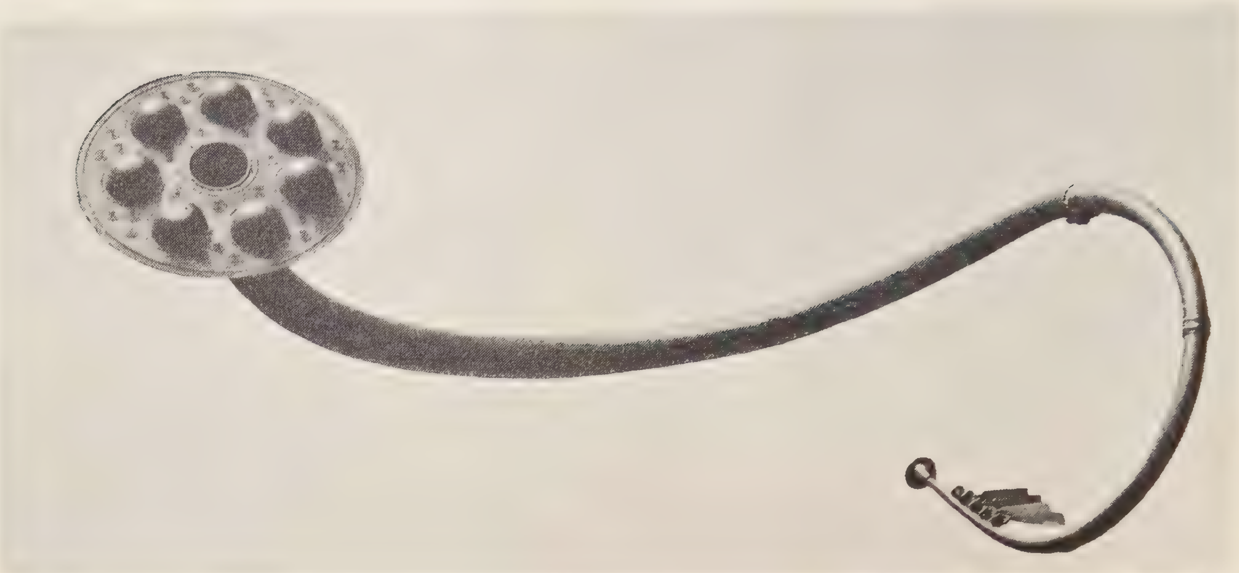
Cultural Value

Danish industry is alive to the advantages of such a system. But neither craftsmen nor management have as yet displayed the readiness to make the required reorganization, and I think that this conservatism is due in some measure to an ingrained conviction about the cultural value of thorough all-round apprenticeship training under a master, supplemented by attendance at technical schools.

It is perhaps doubtful whether the apprenticeship system regarded in Denmark as the best system of training could be applied in countries lacking the traditions which underly it, and which have been built up over a great many years. In order to teach apprentices under this system there must be masters who have undergone the same training. Where the traditions are absent I think that training at schools equipped with the required workshops, etc. will be the only practicable system.



Engineering apprentices being initiated into the mysteries of a lathe



The Bronze Age Lur, the prototype of the guaranteed trade mark of Danish agricultural products, was a musical instrument used in war and religious ceremonies. Lurs are almost unknown outside Denmark, where thirty of them have been found, always in pairs. They are the oldest musical instrument in the world which can still be played

Lur Brand means Guaranteed Quality

By A. Axelsen Drejer, M. A.
Central Cooperative Committee

Purchasers of agricultural products are accustomed to the idea that the intertwined lurs stand for something good and reliable. For fifty years the Lur Brand has guaranteed the origin and quality of Danish butter, as also of Danish bacon and cheese. The productive conditions and provision for inspection implicit in the use of this brand also govern eggs, though the brand itself is not used in this case

LUR BRAND
DANISH BUTTER

Butter cask of Danish beech-wood: the Lur mark is branded on it along with particulars of weight and date

Denmark's reputation in world markets is closely linked to the export of important foodstuffs, in particular butter, bacon and other meat goods, and eggs. For more than half a century the quality of these foods has been maintained by thorough Government inspection based on legislative and associated administrative measures. In the case of some of these commodities inspection is indicated by use of the Lur Brand, which is conditional on the observance of certain production methods, giving the consumer a guarantee of correct description and quality.

The origin and present status of the Lur Brand are connected with interesting features in the history of Danish agricultural exports, of topical interest just now because last autumn it was fifty years since the coming into force of the first Lur Brand Act. The preceding events are typical of the close cooperation that has developed between, on the one hand, the legislation and public administration, and on the other hand practical farmers and their organizations.

Production Switched

By increasing their production of processed livestock products at the end of the last century Danish farmers were able to mitigate the effects of the crisis which was then affecting large sections of the agricultural industries of Europe. The change in the productive structure was accompanied by a considerable expansion of exports, principally to the United Kingdom. The attempts of competitors to misappropriate the designation "Danish" quickly stimulated interest in the use of a common Danish trade mark and guarantee.

Following prolonged discussions and attempts to obtain legislative measures, the idea was finally realized in 1900 by the establishment of a voluntary association of cooperative dairies calling itself the Danish Dairies Butter Mark Society *(Danske Mejeriers Smørmærkeforening)*. The object of this society was the registration of a common brand for Danish butter, to be used by members subject to the fulfilment of certain conditions, and providing a guarantee of Danish origin as well as content and quality.

The Lur Brand which the society adopted consisted of four intertwined lurs, ancient Danish trumpets used by warriors in the Bronze Age. The introduction of this brand marked an important stage in the development of Danish agricultural exports.

Lur Brand Made Law

In the course of three or four years membership of the voluntary association —and with it the use of the butter brand —spread to practically every cooperative dairy in the country. In 1903, therefore, after registering the brand in Denmark and the United Kingdom, the agricultural organizations requested the Government to enforce the use of the brand on all export butter, the Government to take the place of the association as guarantor.

Full discussion by Parliament during the next two years was followed by the adoption on March 30, 1906, of the Act relating to the trade in and import and export of agricultural products. The principal provision of this Act was the laying down of regulations governing a common brand to appear on all containers of butter made in Denmark from pasteurized cream and all Danish butter intended for export. The Act enabled a similar brand to be used for all exported bacon.

The Act came into force on October 3, 1906, the Lur Brand having been previously designated by Royal Order.

The Act of 1906 was chiefly concerned to make the Lur Brand a mark of nationality, its use being a guarantee to the customer of Danish origin, while the law prevented the export of unbranded Danish butter.

Classical Requirements

One of the chief objects of the Lur Brand having thus been achieved, attention then focussed on another important aspect of it, that of the requirements which must be complied with on the productive side as a condition for its use. This was the character of the Lur Brand as a mark of quality.

Delicious sides of ham, also stamped with the Lur brand

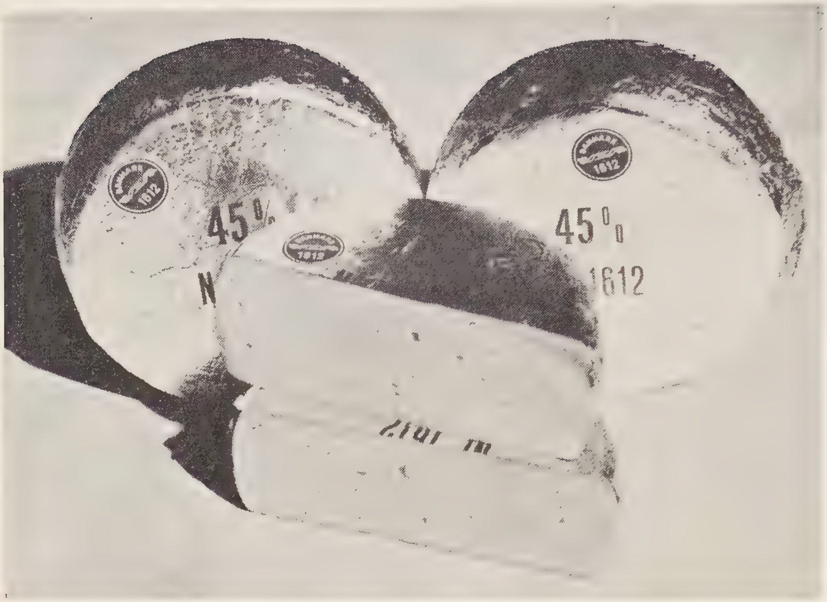
In this respect a decisive step was taken in the Act of April 12, 1911, governing the trade in butter and foreign agricultural products, which laid down the classical provisions concerning the basic qualities that Danish butter must possess for it to be exported under the Lur Brand. They include such fundamental items as prohibition of the use of all preservatives other than common salt, maximum water content, and special tests carried out by specially appointed, responsible judges. All administrative arrangements connected with the Lur Brand were from that moment taken over by the Ministry of Agriculture, and the status of the brand as a Government mark was thus formally established.

With the realization of the two main objects of the Lur Brand—the guarantee both of national origin and of quality, based in both cases on effective Government inspection—the way was paved for a further development of its implications. Certain steps in this direction were taken in an Act of 1926, which in the case of butter introduced important regulations governing indication of net weight on containers of various sizes, together with date-marking designed to prevent speculation in marketing and consequent deterioration in quality. In 1942, at a critical period in Danish history, an Act was passed requiring that all wholesale marketing and export of Lur-branded butter should be by special authorization. This provides a means of enforcing the observance of measures to guarantee the quality, including weekly tests at the warehouse.

Cheese Included

At the same time the compulsory use of the Lur Brand was extended to cheese. Cheese exported must have been produced at a dairy entitled to use the brand; all export cheese must bear the Lur Brand and must comply with the quality and other requirements attendant upon its use.

A further far-reaching step was taken in the control of export goods under a Ministerial provision of March 1952. An intensive campaign carried out over a number of years against bovine tuberculosis, chiefly on the initiative of the dairying organizations, had made such successful progress by then that, at the industry's request, it was laid down that dairies using the Lur Brand could only accept milk from herds registered with



Danish cheeses with the Lur brand on a small label; the number is the producer's

the dairy organizations as tuberculosis-free. In addition to other valuable qualities, therefore, the Lur Brand guarantees a product made from milk from tuberculosis-free cows. The provision certifies by implication that Denmark has abolished tuberculosis in cattle.

Other Applications

The original law of 1906, as we have seen, enabled the use of the Lur Brand to be extended to bacon. An Act of May 1908 introduced extensive Government inspection of all meat products intended for export. In the considerably expanded system of branding and inspection the Lur Brand is an important feature. This is particularly true of exports to the United Kingdom of pig meat or offal, which are restricted to the grade A1.

Other agricultural export goods have also been subjected to extensive inspection designed to raise and maintain quality and protect the national designation, among them the third largest export item, eggs. While the Lur Brand as such has not been included in the inspection and marking arrangements in this case, it has certainly provided the underlying idea.

The history of the Lur Brand over the past fifty years testifies not only to the value of the original measure but also to the scope which it has afforded for adapting the system to the changing needs and opportunities of later periods.

*

Tropical Grade Cheese

Fynbo cheese of a special tropical grade, which has become particularly popular in Venezuela, has helped to spread sales to nearly 100 markets, making Denmark the third largest cheese exporter in the world.

A Dairying Primer

"Danish Dairying" by Einar O. Petersen. Mejeriteknisk Bogforlag (Technical Dairy Publishing House). Copenhagen. 198 pp. 21 kr.

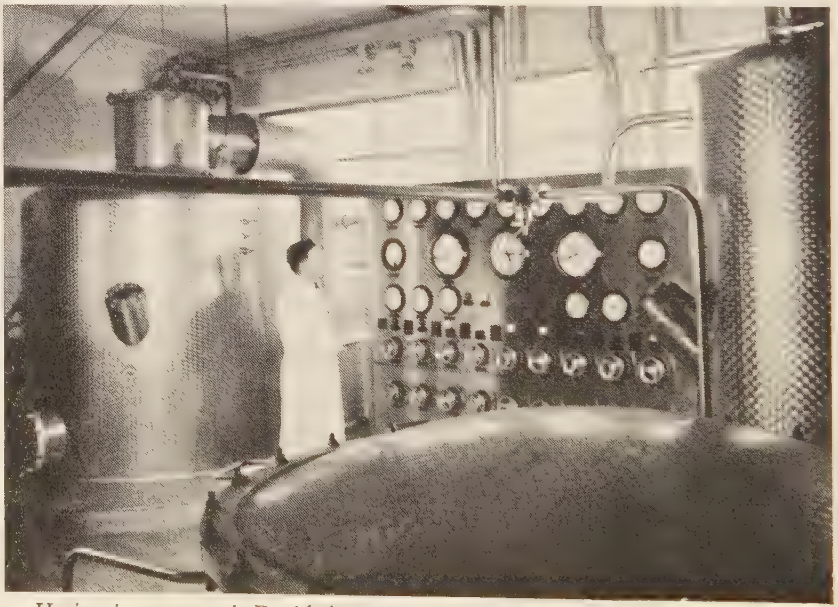
Dairying has been one of the mainstays of the Danish economy for several generations, supplying in recent years 18–20 per cent of all exports. Competitive ability due to guaranteed and uniformly high quality, efficient production methods, and well-organized marketing has been the reason. This, together with the fact that Danish farmers have built up the entire system themselves with the cooperative dairy as its central feature, has long attracted international attention. Professional dairymen and others have come in their thousands to see our dairies, young men have been sent to study them, Danish dairymen have been engaged to apply their experience in other countries, and Danish dairy machines are employed all over the world.

Visitors in every case have had to make their own notes, often based on information supplied by persons with an inadequate knowledge of the language concerned. The author of this book is an expert on he subject, attached to the State Experimental Dairy, and the work has been checked by the leading dairy scientist, Professor H. M. Jensen, of the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural College.

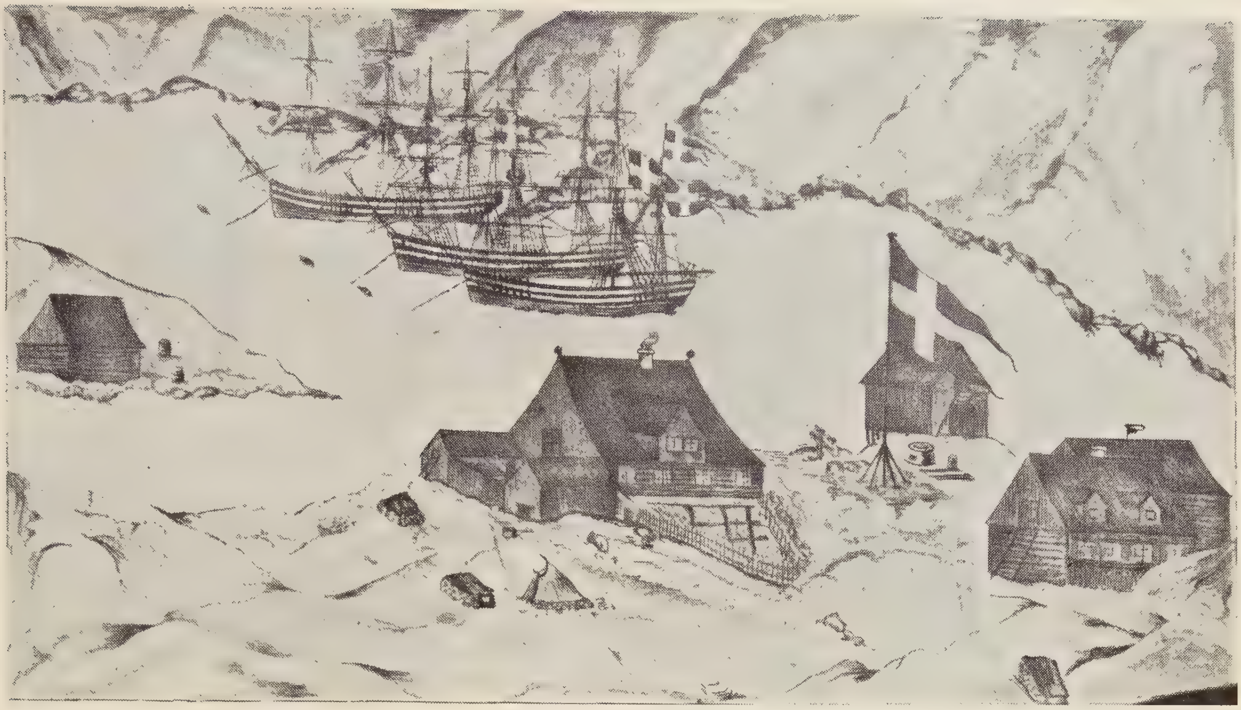
The book is eminently suited to its purpose, and it is, moreover, a *new* book; not a translation, but written specially for foreign readers who have no knowledge of the Danish background. This is made clear by the introductory chapters on Danish social conditions, Danish farming, and the Cooperative Movement, but the fact is given further weight in the chapters dealing with dairying itself. These are easy and popularly written, while being full and detailed enough to enable the professional to get a thorough grounding in all the characteristic features of Danish products, production methods, and organizations. There are chapters on milk production, dairy machinery and dairy equipment; on the production of butter, cheese, processed cheese, ice cream, condensed milk, and dried milk; on urban milk supply, quality control and quality improvement; on dairy training and dairy experiment and research.

The book will be a valuable aid; a primer for everyone interested in Danish dairying, and a worthy ambassador for our principal export products.

Clemens Pedersen



Hygiene is paramount in Danish dairying; vats glitter with aluminium and stainless steel



Old drawing (made in colour by H. Willumsen in 1829) of the settlement of Godhavn, founded on the island of Disco in 1773. The local manager's house in the centre of the picture is surrounded by Greenland huts of skin and turves

The Language Situation in Greenland

By Finn Gad

Education Adviser, Ministry for Greenland

The language situation in Greenland today is the result of 230 years of evolution. Although formerly the Eskimo dialect of West Greenland was the most natural medium for the expression of the ideas, material and spiritual, of Greenland daily life, the economic transitions and technical advances of recent generations are necessitating the introduction of bilingualism, with Danish as the second language

In Greenland as everywhere else, language is an instrument serving the needs of local human environment. This is a simple fact which must not be overlooked. Measured by world standards, the cultural environment of Greenland has always been restricted, and yet within its limited range of ideas Greenlandic is astonishingly rich in shades of meaning.

From its inception in 1721 the mission under Hans Egede, "the apostle of Greenland", was humanitarian in its approach. In accordance with Lutheran ideas about the vital place of the mother tongue in the life and teachings of the Church, Egede applied himself to learning the Greenlandic language, in order to teach the faith and preach so that Greenlanders would understand him. First attempts to acquire a satisfactory command of West Greenlandic were unsuccessful; it was not until much later that missionaries found adequate expressions for their fundamental ideas.

Nevertheless they established themselves as spiritual forces with astonishing rapidity, and by their methods they vindicated the Greenlandic language. The appointment of "catechists" (teachers who also functioned as clergy), first persons of European extraction with Greenlandic ties of occupation, marriage, and domicile, and later native Greenlanders, consolidated the use of West Greenlandic. Through the mission the range of ideas slowly widened, and with it the scope of the language itself. Translations of the Bible, catechisms, and hymns (translated and original) were printed for use in schools and services. As more and more people learnt to read, Greenland found itself with a translated literature and the first beginnings of an original one.

The Royal Greenland Board of Trade, in its various manifestations, was principally intended to support the mission economically and by maintaining communications, while making a profit if possible. Except for idealistic individuals (of whom there was an astonishing number) its personnel could not concern itself with the language problem. Business was transacted in a Greenlandic dependent on the enterprise and talent of the individual trader, workman, or seaman. West Greenlandic asserted itself in this field as well, the vocabulary being enriched by numerous terms indicative of the material expansion of the daily environment.

Although West Greenlandic is remarkable for its capacity for word-building, a number of loan-words in more or less naturalized form have found their way into the language from both the spiritual and the material world.

The question of Danish *versus* Greenlandic never became a problem, chiefly because the Danish-speaking colonists were a linguistic minority. West Greenlandic was bound to prevail so long as it succeeded in finding terms to express ideas relevant to the Greenlanders. Somewhere about 1800 a minor official recommended that they should be taught to speak Danish, while a missionary about the same time advocated Latin. Both proposals passed unnoticed.

About 1840 many copies of devotional tracts as well as secular narratives were circulating among Greenlanders, while the amount of printed literature in Greenlandic continued to increase. This was an important factor in the development of the language situation.

The study of the Eskimo language centred in and around West Greenland from the days of Hans Egede and his son Paul, the clergyman and naturalist Otho Fabricius, and the missionaries Kragh, Kjer, and Janssen, to its culmination in the philological genius Samuel Kleinschmidt. In 1851, Kleinschmidt published his fundamental work *Grammatik der grönländischen Sprache*, which clarified the structure of the Eskimo language at a stroke. This was followed by his dictionary. Since Kleinschmidt, the scientific study of the language, coupled with practical teaching of it, has continued undiminished.

In 1845, two training colleges were established in West Greenland at Godthåb and Jakobshavn respectively, a small beginning in the rational training of workers in the service of the mission and education: the catechists who were to work at small settlements rarely visited by missionaries. It would have seemed unnatural to them to employ any other means of expression than their own language. To leading men with a general outlook on political and national problems the right of the mother tongue was a matter of principles, influenced as they were by the national-liberal ideas of the 1840s.

Greenlandic Supremacy

People like Janssen, Kleinschmidt, and the "classical" Rink, the trade inspector in South Greenland, in their petition for a form of moderate local self-government, emphasized that their object was to restore the Greenlanders' self-respect, which had seemingly been lost in West Greenland. One of the means of doing so, in their opinion, was by sustaining the West Greenlandic language: the extension of its capabilities through local political discussions, and employment of it in speech and writing on secular as well as religious subjects. Its status was to be raised by using it as a medium for general enlightenment outside schools.

It was consistent with Kleinschmidt's views that he should also insist on the priority of Greenlandic in

The Greenland National Council, a body having the powers of a county council, with seat at Godthåb. The Governor is seated at the far table in the middle. At the meeting illustrated, in 1951, the policy of supporting cultural objects and social welfare by taxes on luxuries was decided upon. Discussions are in Danish and Greenlandic education. But he agreed that Danish should be taught at training colleges, in order that students there might broaden their outlook through it, passing on to their fellow-countrymen what they could in Greenlandic.

It was believed that a permanent cultural change was taking place, involving perhaps a trend towards a specifically West Greenlandic culture under Danish influence.

Material Changes

The language had been rooted in the original occupations; but towards the end of the last century, and especially just after the beginning of this, it became evident that there would have to be a complete change of occupations. This is now in full progress. The new economic situation, together with the present strategic and political position of Greenland, undoubtedly accounts for the change in the language pattern now desired by the Greenlanders.

Prior to this material change there had been no desire for a transition, and any attempt to force the issue in favour of bilingualism would have given rise to culture conflicts of incalculable consequences. The teaching of Danish would have been economically and socially irrelevant, education unrealistic.

But the slow change in the economy was accompanied by a change, likewise slow, in the language position. Fishing and sheep-farming as occupations are not exclusively associated with Greenlandic, and indeed have better media of expression in other languages. General terms associated with an industrial culture often defy any concise expression in Greenlandic. Consequently, in the long run, the demands of vocational and of general education cannot be met through translated literature. For these reasons, from the 1930s onwards, there has been a growing demand for a knowledge of Danish, which as far as the primary schools are concerned is based on a reader by Aage Bugge dating from the 1920s.

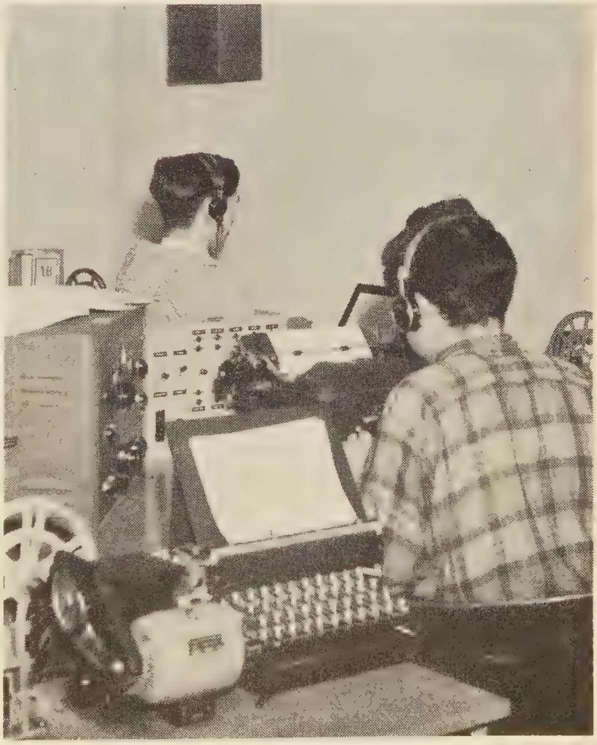
Demand for Danish

The only way to an increased knowledge of Danish, however, is through the use of Danish as the teaching language for other subjects. The appointment of more Danish teachers at Godthåb Training College and High School, as well as at the continuation schools there and at Egedesminde and Julianehåb, seemed to suggest that the knowledge of Danish could be improved by teaching in Danish. But it was too late a stage in the education of these students. The knowledge did not go deep enough, and when the catechists reached their field of operations their Danish fairly soon degenerated through loss of contact.

It seems paradoxical that the publication of books in Greenlandic, owing to the enterprise of Greenlanders, greatly accelerated simultaneously with the growing demand for more Danish. West Greenland authors grew bolder; and novels, plays, and secular and religious poetry came out, and are still coming out, alongside translations of some world classics. They demonstrate the certainty and irrevocableness of historical development, and, at the same time, the danger of opposing it too radically.

The means of growth have now been created in the 1950 Greenland Education Act. The given basis is the sparse population, the environmental conditions, and the linguistic isolation. The object of the Act was to lay down the policies of an educational system aimed at removing

The advent of technology to Greenland is one of the reasons why more knowledge of Danish is desired. A Greenland electrician working on the telephone wires



The Greenlanders, who are very musical, are among the quickest telegraphists anywhere. Here one is working alongside a Danish telegraphist

The Greenland broadcast station at Godthåb (475 m and 31.5 m) is an invaluable factor in the service of culture

the linguistic isolation and bringing about the cultural transition which best accords with the change in material conditions, and in step with it. This is being done by the immediate establishment of four bilingual schools, the number to be increased as rapidly as is technically practicable. Knowledge of Danish is being increased by the employment of purely Danish-speaking teachers for Danish and other subjects. Boarding departments which in time will form part of these schools will accommodate children from small settlements in the district, until such time as the technical and teaching requirements of such small settlements can be justifiably met. The appointment of fully qualified teachers is envisaged at places where there are at least forty children of school age.

The six years of experience gained by the education system since the 1950 Act became fully effective strongly suggests that as a working basis it offers excellent facilities for helping Greenland social life out of its linguistic isolation. The biggest journal, the fortnightly periodical *Atuagagdliutit* is printed simultaneously in Greenlandic and in Danish, as are several small local weeklies. It should be borne in mind that the language traditions of the past are being maintained during the process of introducing bilingualism.

Psychological Factor

The Greenlander's disinclination to assert himself may spring from the Eskimo life of the past, but in any event colonization intensified it as a factor contributing to linguistic isolation. The authoritative and didactive work of the mission in school and church encouraged the traditional receptive outlook. But a person can learn nothing properly, least of all languages, by being passively receptive.

Modern education with its emphasis on creativity and active participation by pupils, together with the vitalized acquisition of languages, should remedy these inhibitions in time. They have been mentioned because they are necessary to an understanding of the language situation, which in part is unquestionably due to the Greenlander's psychology.

Technical expansion at the quickest possible pace involves a relatively rapid flow of labour to many Greenland settlements, and to some extent to the fisheries. Danish is spoken and heard in these settlements. Where Greenlandic-speaker and Danish-speaker work side by side or in more or less intimate contact, it is the one who speaks only Greenlandic who must try to catch up; time is too short for the Danish speaker. In this way the little knowledge possessed by the Greenlander is activated and increased, for good or ill, in no gentle manner. In any case the practical usefulness of knowing Danish during working hours, and often after, is obvious. In a way this is the most radical means by which Greenlanders over school-leaving age can improve their knowledge of Danish.

The present situation of the Greenland community (and thus the language situation) is the result of a development which has followed its own course. It can be illuminated by developments elsewhere, but it can be understood only on its own terms. The cultural change from isolation under a single language to a unifying bilingualism is, when all is said and done, only a question of time. It is about as difficult a question as may be, in a time when patient waiting for a situation to ripen is unpopular. Where interests so vital as the vehicles of human contact are concerned, change can come only when the time is ripe for it. The most we can do is to prepare the soil and build the outworks, so that all will be ready when the change naturally presents itself. The social and economic conditions are necessary preliminaries.

Greenland churchgoers leaving service at Egedesminde. The inscription ERKIGSIGITSE means' 'Peace go with you''

BOOK SHELF

Gothic Tales

"The Red Umbrellas" by Kelvin Lindemann. Methuen, London. 176 pp. 10s 6d.

During a cholera epidemic in Copenhagen a hundred years ago three "characters"—an old marchioness, her former companion, and a professor—gather at the marchioness's mansion and (a familiar device) beguile the time telling fantastic tales, some humorous, some macabre. Some of the stories introduce historical characters, including Charlotte Corday who murdered Marat, and the Swede Count Fersen who organized the flight of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette, and who was killed by a Stockholm mob, as the tale relates. Each of the stories has some bearing on the lives of those who tell them, and the last reveals the hidden relationship between all three. While to some readers these sophisticated tales may seem artificial and involved, they suggest the underlying moods of a pestilence-stricken city and successfully evoke the period atmosphere of old Copenhagen, especially that of the Tivoli pleasure park, then only recently opened, with its elegant crowds, its glamorous lights, its Italian pantomime theatre, its English clowns. *R. S.*

A Danish Reader

"Modern Danish Prose". A selection of Danish texts for foreign students compiled by H. A. Kofoed. Høst & Søns Forlag, Copenhagen. 160 pp. Kr. 6.75.

With Mr. Bredsdorff's primer (reviewed on this page) and Mr. Kofoed's anthology to follow on with, students of Danish suddenly find themselves much better catered for than they have ever been in the past. Here are 17 specimens of the best Danish prose, ranging from Hans Andersen and Kierkegaard to H. C. Branner and Martin A. Hansen and including a complete one-act play, *Før Cannæ*, by Kaj Munk. The book is a product of Mr. Kofoed's work, until recently, as lecturer in Danish at University College, London. He introduces it with an admirable brief survey in English of Danish prose literature from the earliest times and provides helpful notes to each passage. The pieces are graded according to difficulty.

Resistance Story

"The Spark and the Flame" by Flemming B. Muus. Translated and edited by Varinka Muus and J. F. Burke. Museum Press, London. 172 pp. 13s 6d.

When attacked without warning on April 9, 1940, by Germany, Denmark could offer little resistance and was quickly overrun and occupied. Any attempt at escape by the King and the Government would, for geographical reasons, have been foredoomed to failure, and the aggressors, anxious to placate the Danish people and preserve order, allowed them to remain in office and proceeded to build up a picture of a contented and independent nation under German protection. The pattern of resistance which emerged from this initial situation was bound to differ from that in countries where occupation followed more or less prolonged military operations and whose heads of state and governments transferred their seat to London. On the other hand, Britain, holding out against the Nazis alone, could in this situation have no other policy than to stimulate resistance and create, with active Danes, an organization which would facilitate transition from passive to active resistance when the time was ripe.

One such Dane was Flemming Muus. Living in Liberia, and seeing things with the eye of an involved spectator without complicating or blurring details, he was determined to get to London in order to take an active part in his country's liberation. After encountering a tremendous amount of difficulty, he eventually succeeded in doing so and was recruited on arrival by an organization which, unknown to himself, had enrolled him in Africa and paid his passage. He was given special training and, along with others, in due course parachuted into Denmark. There, thanks to his extraordinary courage and organizing ability, and to the help and support of fellow-countrymen in key positions, the organization which it was his mission to establish was soon an accomplished fact, and it was not long before the occupying authorities were feeling its weight. Although the story had an unfortunate ending as far as Muus personally was concerned, a fact which he does not conceal, the active resistance that he and others promoted caused incalculable damage to the Germans and had a no less powerful effect on Denmark's prestige in the free world, in vindicating the predictions of her friends and supporters.

Flemming Muus tells the story of his adventures in getting to London and then of his training at sabotage schools, of his parachute drops, and of the work and effects of the resistance movement which eventually took shape. His book is not a history—that would require other testimony and other points of view—but it is a thrilling story of high adventure in a patriotic cause, told by a protagonist who did much to promote it.

Reginald Spink

Proposed War Memorial

Danish soldiers who fell in the last world war, on Danish soil or abroad, are to have their memorial. The design provides for a ten-foot-high monument of a soldier in battle-dress with oak-wreath and the emblems of the Army, Navy, and Air Force. Funds are being raised by public subscription.

There is a monument to the Resistance Movement on the site of German executions in Copenhagen.

Learning Danish

"Danish". An elementary grammar and reader by Elias Bredsdorff. Cambridge University Press. 301 pp. 30s.

This excellent text-book, based on nine years of experience in teaching Danish to students in the universities of Cambridge and London, establishes itself at once as easily the best obtainable, useful alike to the absolute beginner, all who may wish to brush up their knowledge, and those (probably a majority) who have learnt the language practically, with little academic instruction, and want to fill in the grammatical gaps.

The book is divided into six parts: a general introduction to written and spoken Danish; a chapter on phonetics; a grammar with exercises; general information; 25 Danish texts making up 88 pages; and English texts for translation into Danish. While in his introduction Mr. Bredsdorff perhaps underrates the difficulties, especially of pronunciation and translation, the grammatical sections could hardly be bettered. The Danish texts, which are fully annotated, have been exceptionally well chosen to provide passages not only good in themselves but interesting from the point of view of the English-speaking reader, including as they do a description by Hans Andersen of a visit to Dickens, the legend of Amled (the ultimate source of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*) from Saxo Grammaticus, Holberg's description of his life at Oxford, and extracts from Carl Nielsen's story of his childhood. *R. S.*

Count Reventlow's Memoirs

Denmark's former ambassador in London, Count Edouard Reventlow, has written his memoirs, *I dansk tjeneste* (In Danish Service), which appeared during the autumn.

The Danes in Portugal

A recent book by Cedric Salter, *Introducing Portugal*, gives the little known information that in the year 1189 12,000 Danes and Frisians landed in southern Portugal, stormed the town of Alvor, and, after murdering 6,000 of its inhabitants, carried off rich booty.

Naturalist Author's Anniversary

A hundred years ago, on April 20, 1857, the Danish author Herman Bang was born, the son of a clergyman. His works, of which the most significant were published between 1886 and 1890, display clearly the influence of the French Naturalists. But this most typical representative of Naturalism in Denmark differed from his French masters in that the mean and despiised characters whom he loved to depict engaged his personal sympathy. His best works have been translated into several European languages. Herman Bang's readings, especially of his own works, were greatly appreciated. He was an outstanding dramatic producer, being connected for a time with Lugné-Poe's "Théâtre de l'Oeuvre" in Paris. As a journalist, he played a prominent rôle in the Danish press. Herman Bang died on January 29, 1912, while travelling in the United States. *M. H.*

The mounted postman of 1806 and the motor-cycle postman of 1956 made an interesting contrast in the Post Office Jubilee celebrations

Dogs His One Enemy

By Ib Eichner-Larsen

The Post Office enjoys extraordinary popularity in Denmark: with taxpayers because, for one reason, it makes a small profit, and with foreign visitors mostly because of the distinctive red uniform. The vivid colour dates back to the old Copenhagen "foot post", an institution whose record is itself an interesting piece of social history

The Danish postman in his distinctive red jacket has become, in the age of colour films, the favourite target of every tourist visiting Denmark with a camera. As an attraction he seems almost on the point of overshadowing the Little Mermaid statue and the bonneted Copenhagen fishwives, and the cheering feature in the street scene which he presents has been widely used by poster designers.

The postman as shown in these pictures is not simply an old tradition kept alive during the summer for the benefit of foreign visitors: he is an integral part of everyday Danish life, a challenge to gloom and ill temper in summer and winter alike, not only by reason of his striking uniform but also through his good humour. "Our red-coated friends", the postmen are popularly called, regardless of whether they bring good or bad news, the long awaited letter from a sweetheart or a reminder from a creditor.

Colours of Royal House

Postmen have been climbing the stairs to Copenhagen flats now for 150 years, and the anniversary has been celebrated with all the festivity due to such popular public servants. The Danish Post Office, it is true, was instituted away back in 1624 at the instance of King Christian IV, but postmen were first introduced in 1806 when regular letter deliveries were established in Copenhagen. It was a retired customs officer, H. C. Riegels, who was granted the privilege to start this postal service, with the strong support of the Prince Regent, later Frederik VI. In gratitude to the Royal house, which had always shown the Post Office special favour, it was resolved that the "foot post" (as postmen were then called) should wear a uniform in the colours of the House of Oldenborg; namely, red and yellow. The tradition has been maintained, red and yellow being still the Post Office colours: red uniforms and letter boxes, yellow vans and bicycles.

Riegels commenced his activities with eight postmen, who announced their arrival in the courtyards with resounding blows on a gong. They were not allowed to mount the stairs to flats: to find out whom the letter was for, and in order to deliver their own, the occupants had to go down.

Letter Boxes Rejected

The idea of setting up letter boxes (for unstamped letters) in various buildings had been considered but rejected by the Prince Regent on the grounds that they might be abused, "both by hoaxers, who might put in letters for persons whom the postmen might search for in vain, and by evil-minded persons who with equal secrecy would be able to send anonymous letters to anyone they liked."

In their first year the "foot post" delivered 63,686 letters in Copenhagen, but during the British siege the following year deliveries were so restricted that the discontinuance of the service was considered. "It is usual", the General Post Office wrote to the King, "that families which maintain extensive contact with each other also have servants they send on outside errands". In the end Riegels was granted free rights over a period of years, and the "foot post" remained under his and his family's proprietorship for 40 years.

At Riegel's death in 1810 the privilege passed to his wife, Anne Margrethe Lund; and six weeks later her first husband, believed to have perished by shipwreck nine years earlier, turned up (it was to be 14 years before they remarried).

Twenty Times a Year up Everest

An agricultural crisis, national bankruptcy, and general economic depression involved the "foot post" in difficulties; when the Post Office took over in Copenhagen, in 1849, the number of local deliveries was about the same as during the first few years. But the introduction of the first Danish stamps and letter boxes stimulated interest; the number of letters steadily grew and the Copenhagen postmen took their place as an essential feature of communications.

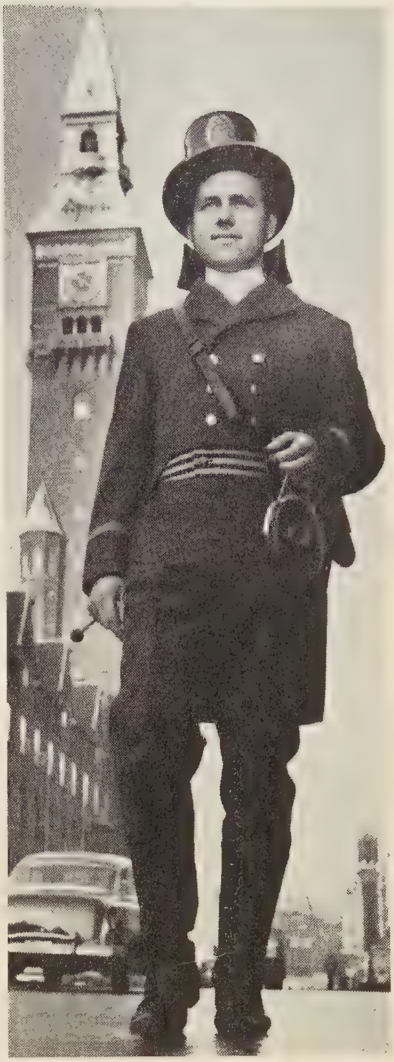
In 1806 there were eight postmen in Copenhagen; today there are 1,200, and they handle over 100 million letters and packages a year—last year 108 million. Upstairs and downstairs carrying half a hundredweight of letters: it is a job which calls for good health and sound legs. In the morning delivery alone the Copenhagen postman climbs 30 flights of stairs, each of four storeys—making 120 storeys in all. On top of this there is a second and a third delivery (a fourth even in the city centre), totalling at a conservative estimate another 30 storeys; so that altogether a postman daily climbs 150 storeys, or something over a third of a mile. On his approximately 300 working days in the course of a year this amounts to over a hundred miles, or, to carry the arithmetic further, 20 times the height of Mount Everest. When he retires on pension at the age of 65 he has climbed the equivalent of the world's highest peak 800 times.

The exertions seem to have no effect on his humour. All receive the same friendly service whether they are first or last on his round, or live in cottage or castle. Talking of castles, it is a fact surely without parallel that King Frederik IX gets his mail delivered the same way as any other resident of Copenhagen. Amalienborg Palace is included in the postman's round along with every other house in the capital city, and is not even first on the round. Only one distinction is made: his Majesty gets his post on Sundays as well as weekdays.

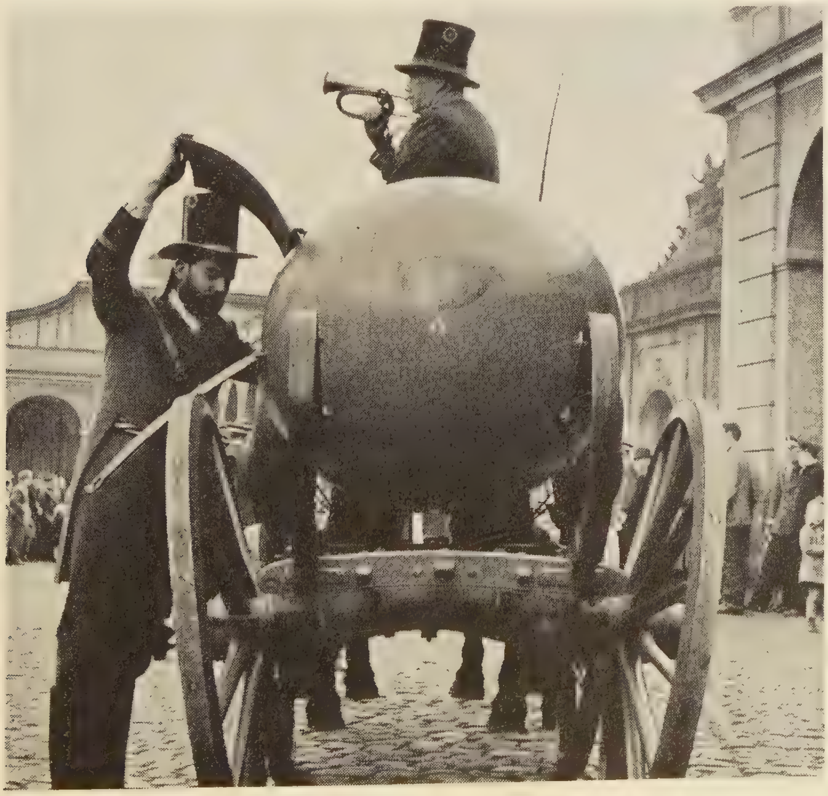
A Blue-coated Postman

The country postman's uniform is less conspicuous than his town colleague's: it is dark blue. In popularity, however, the blue-coated postman is by no means outdown by the man in red. He is, if anything, in even closer personal contact with his "customers", on nodding terms with them all, always welcome and always glad of a cup of coffee and a bite to eat or a pick-me-up, perhaps in return for an unofficial service, such as calling for a bottle of medicine or a pair of boots in town. The rural postman's job also requires—besides resistance to money—a strong man in every way: the round is often long and arduous and must be covered in all sorts of weather. Only a regular gale can stop delivery, which is usually made on a heavily loaded bicycle.

Everywhere the postman is a favoured guest. He can go into places where other uniforms may not be so welcome, and is highly popular with everyone—except dogs. Dogs are the postman's only enemy; but then this is an international problem, and so important that it has been taken up in the United Nations.



The equipment of the "foot post" of 1806 included a gong, which the popular letter-bearer of those days used to sound twice



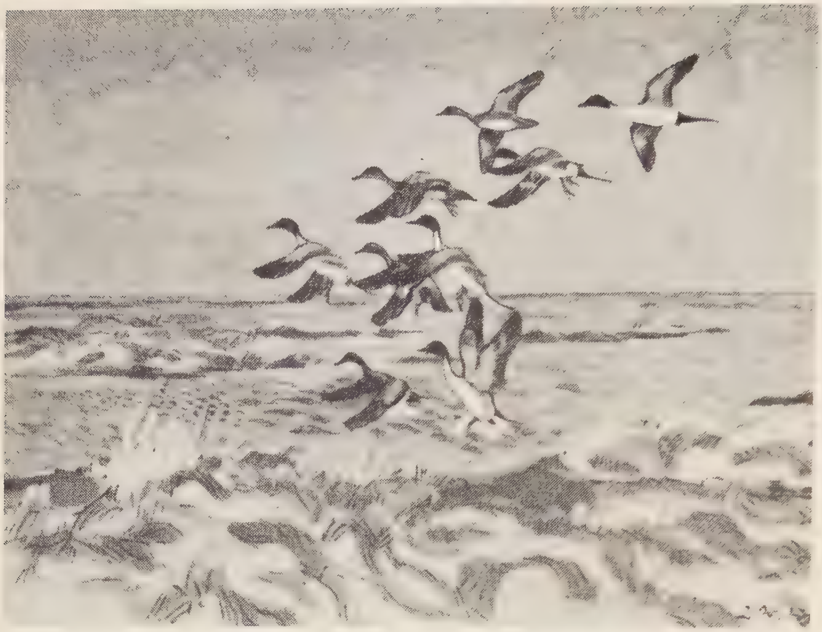
Court Telegraph Office

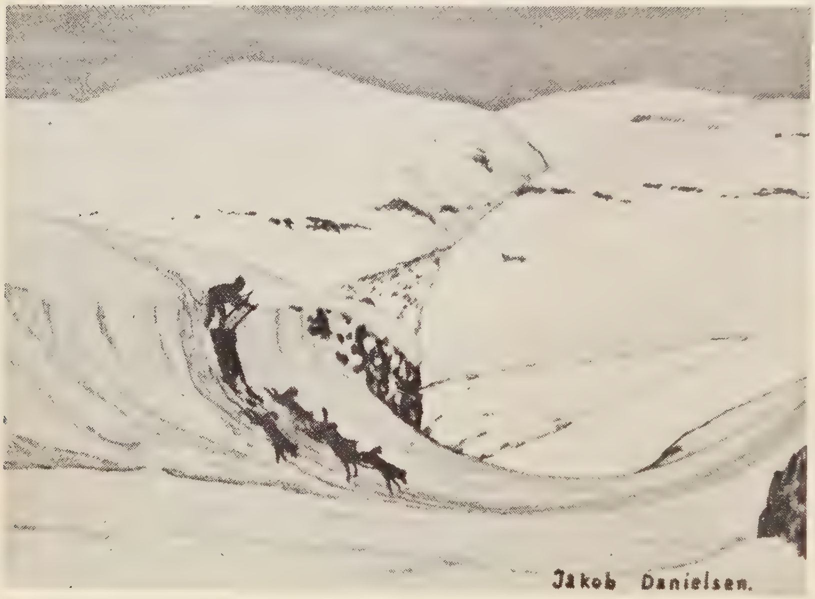
The King's private telegraph and telephone exchange celebrated in the autumn its centenary. The office's busiest day was the seventy-third birthday of King Christian X in 1943, when wartime events led to the transmission of 4,000 telegrams from his subjects.

The Five Wild Swans

The generally accepted Scandinavian symbol of the five swans figured last autumn on the postage stamps of all five Northern countries—Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Denmark—in token of Northern association and Northern cooperation, which now covers many fields. The symbol was created by the Danish poet Hans Hartvig Seedorff; the swans occur in the introductory verse of one of his poems, which has gained favour as a kind of Northern national anthem.

The peculiar spherical mail-van also took part in the jubilee celebrations, though it is from an earlier date





Jakob Danielsen.

Novel All-Season Greeting Cards

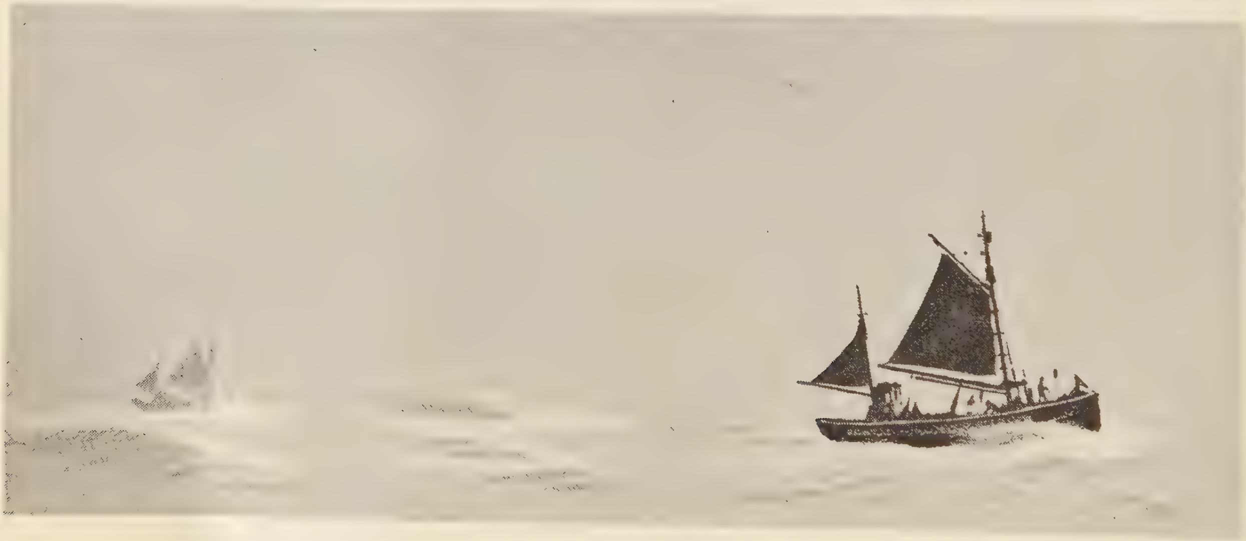
By Marie-Louise Paludan

People who buy greeting cards may just as well buy good ones, argued a Danish publisher when he began producing worthwhile artistic cards fifty years ago. This distinctive industry has developed into a recognized branch of Danish applied art

Every year, millions of UNICEF's handsome greeting cards with fine artistic colour reproductions of children at play are sold and posted all over the world. These cards, which are one of the principal means of financing UNICEF's humanitarian work and improving the lot of large numbers of needy children, are printed in Copenhagen.

The placing of this large export order with a Danish firm is a recognition of merit. Artistically produced greeting cards have become a flourishing branch of Danish applied art, things which foreign visitors in recent years have asked for in Danish shops, along with silver, furniture, pottery, and fabrics. Last summer, many stationers, even in small provincial towns, had to bring out their full range of Christmas cards for overseas visitors, who were so pleased with what they saw that they went off with big bundles of them.

Many people have had a hand in this development. Noteworthy in the home market have been fine reproductions in



steel-engraving and photogravure of works by well-known artists, including pen-and-ink drawings by Viggo Bang and Mads Stage. The firm responsible for the export business sells its cards, in increasing numbers every year, to 14–15 countries.

It was at the end of the last century that the then manager of the firm had the good idea that people wanting to buy pictorial greeting cards should be able to get worthwhile art. And so—as one of the first firms in the world—he began to make artistic cards, using reproductions of paintings by contemporary Danish painters like Marstrand, Ancher, and Hammershøj. The idea started a fashion.

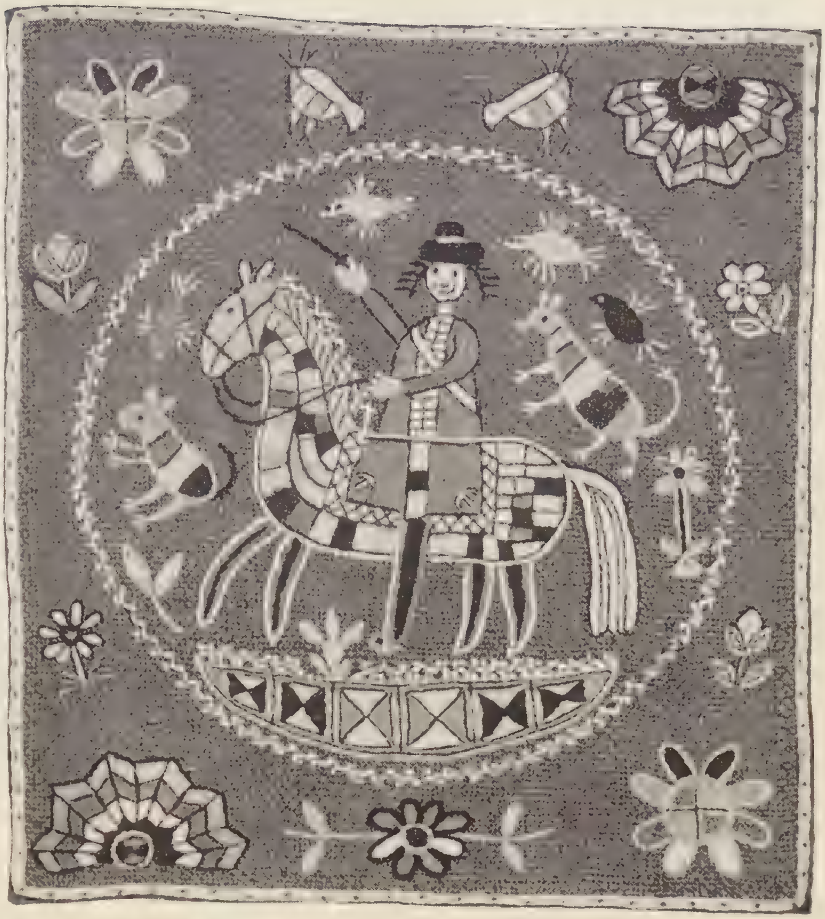
International Appeal

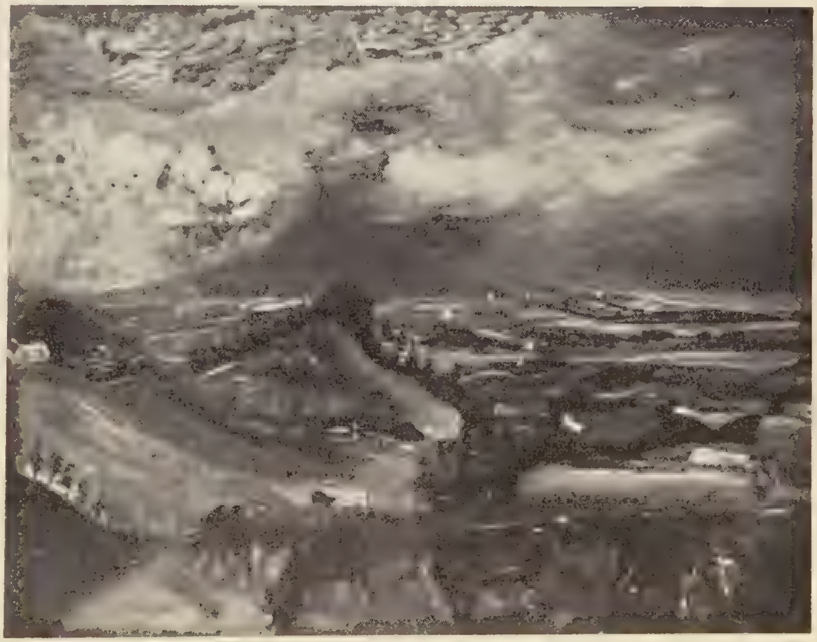
Danes overload the Post Office only once a year, when they send their Christmas cards. Every self-respecting Dane has a yard-long list of people to whom he sends cards, and the last few evenings before Christmas are spent in hectic writing and crossing off on the list. But a glance at the charm and humour—and occasional seriousness and depth—of Danish Christmas cards suggests that lessons might be learnt from other countries, where greeting cards are sent all the year round on a variety of occasions.

The original idea of reproductions of contemporary Danish paintings has crystallized into a single series every year, representative of the finest reproductive technique and artistic merit. The artist of the year is chosen in consultation with the director of the State Museum of Art: in 1954 it was Vilhelm Lundstrøm, in 1955 Niels Lergaard, and in 1956 Jens Søndergaard, whose splendid seascapes with a few austere figures and blocks of houses are admirably reproduced in off-set.

Wider Scope

But there are other forms of art, especially the purely decorative ones, for which there is a wider scope within the limits set by the postcard, elastic though these are. Possibly, decorative art is more international in its appeal. This is certainly true of the frescoes of Fanefjord Church, with their subtle pale brick and ochre colours; and it is true of the gossamer-like Tønder lace on a blue background, as well as the many delightful embroidery patterns by Dagmar Starcke and others. In fruitful association with the Society for Arts and Crafts a large series of fine patchwork and paper cuttings have been designed in cheerful colour schemes (by





Page 22 top: Pintail Ducks. Reproduced from an original water colour by Leif Rydeng

Page 22 middle: Water colour by the Greenland seal hunter Jakob Danielsen (1890—1938), exhibited at the State Museum of Art, 1941: Disco; Jakob crossing a frozen river bed

Page 22 bottom: Fishing vessels putting to sea, from an original drawing by Sikker Hansen. Used as a cover design for THE DANISH FOREIGN OFFICE JOURNAL, *No. 1, 1948*

Page 23 top: The Scarlet Huntsman. Reproduced from a copy of old Danish peasant embroidery

Page 23 bottom: Reproduction of Thy (Jutland) Landscape, by Jens Søndergaard (1929). Oil on canvas. State Museum of Art, Copenhagen

Joan Jordan among others); and in new series M. Wigner and Karen Kjærsgaard play imaginatively on the designs which so attract visitors to Scandinavian arts and crafts exhibitions: the engaging straw-plaited Christmas goats, the airy paper-cut snow crystals, birds, bells, hearts, and stars—a traditional folk art refined to the point of sophistication.

All-round Representation

Danish landscapes make their strongest appeal, of course, to Danish hearts, but will also have something to say to others in the wistful charm of Ib Andersen's windswept autumn hedges, coppices, and gardens, or of C. V. Stubbe-Teglbjærg's impressions of a tuft of grass and a little melting snow, suggesting not merely a fragment of Danish scenery but Nature itself. A special place is filled by Sikker Hansen, whose many delightful covers for this journal, so full of atmosphere, have been reproduced as "long slims", the longest greeting cards yet.

The grand and colourful scenery and animal life of Greenland have been successfully conveyed on cards by many Danish artists. Harald Moltke, Harald Hansen, Emma A. Petersen, and above all the Greenlander Jacob Danielsen, a natural and original talent, depict the landscape, while Gitz Johansen in his assured cave-drawing style represents Greenland faces framed by a furry anorak, or musk-oxen, polar hares, and ptarmigan. Wonderfully decorative are his Greenland birds—but the bird cards are a chapter by themselves. The old Funen painter, Johannes Larsen, was the pioneer in this field. His latest successor is Leif Rydeng, whose new bird series is one of great beauty.

Mention should also be made of the popular cartoonist Jensenius's series of Christmas cards, with their warm humanity and cheerfulness, their decorated trees and merry bustle, and their cherubs descending on snow-clad landscapes. With Ib Andersen's droll, detailed renderings of goblins and mice in pantries and cellars they give a charming picture of a Scandinavian Christmas.

A Christmas novelty with all-season possibilities is the firm's latest export idea: artistic wrapping paper, printed both with an embroidery finish of cloth-like texture in delicately blended blue, brownish-yellow, and red, and in photographic style with gay little Viking ships bobbing on blue waters.

Danish firms also produce playing cards and even scented flower cards—but that is another story.

Food from the SAS kitchen at Kastrup, placed on trays which fit into the electric oven, is easily arranged and takes up little room

What's Cooking on Board?

By Ellen Christensen

Most of the food consumed by the 900,000 passengers carried annually by Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS) is prepared, from Danish ingredients, in the company's giant kitchen in Copenhagen Airport at Kastrup. The kitchen, catering for every variety of taste and climate, is only a part of the flight service which has helped to establish the SAS reputation

Meals are an important part of the service to passengers on SAS air liners, helping to shorten the journey and giving the traveller a feeling of being well looked after as the stewardess tirelessly caters for his hourly needs. On some flights she serves no fewer than 20-22 meals large and small, and as Cloudmasters often carry over seventy passengers this is no small job. It can only be done because everything is prepared and arranged beforehand.

The principal SAS kitchen is at Copenhagen Airport, Kastrup, and it supplies the bulk of the food, made from Danish ingredients, for the company's international services. Here long-term and long-distance plans are drawn up, enabling the administration to tell at a glance what passengers on any SAS plane anywhere that day will be having for dinner. The chef is not only a first-rate cook, he is also an excellent administrator. Every item is packed in convenient hygienic steel boxes, each portion on its own tray, ready on the stroke for handing over to the servicing staff, who tick off every item on their carefully prepared lists. In the aircraft the boxes are put straight into their allotted places in the pantry.

Working with a Will

It looks easy but has been well thought out. In the SAS kitchen there is bustling activity but never a rush, for everything has been calculated to avoid rush. The huge apparatus can be kept in motion by a comparatively small staff. The whole secret lies in planning and organization — plus the fact that the entire personnel is hand-picked. And so work in this kitchen, preparing immense quantities of food, goes with a swing. Meat of all sorts hangs row by row in cold stores and deep-freezers, nine tons of this one item alone being consumed every month. In the *smørrebrød* department a brigade of nimble-fingered women make 4,000 open-faced sandwiches every day, while the bakeries daily produce 3,000 Danish pastries, rolls, and fancy bread of all kinds, not counting the fancy cakes, which often are sheer works of art: dainty and delectable, worthily called confectionery.

SAS run their own giant kitchen as much for service as for saving. Here they can be certain of getting what they want; the responsible head is there to keep an eye on things and ensure that there is never too little or too much. He has a keen eye for the sprig of parsley on the sandwich, inspects the plastic wrapper round the helpings, and studies reports from stewardesses to note whether food heated in the pantry's electric oven—or stored in the refrigerator—kept its proper appearance. But complaints are rare: everything is thoroughly tested, every member of the staff aware of his responsibility, the satisfaction of passengers being the best guarantee.

Although the kitchen is in Denmark, the meals are prepared to suit international tastes and climates. The company has a large overseas menu and a smaller European one, but the kitchen can ring the changes on 110 variations, so that any chance of getting the same meal on the outward journey is excluded.

Branch kitchens are maintained in various places, chiefly in Oslo and Stockholm, but also in Frankfurt, Buenos Aires, New York and Los Angeles, Rome, Karachi, and Hamburg. The cake you eat *en route* to Tokyo may not have been made in Copenhagen; but you can be sure it was there that it was decided you were to have such a cake at such a time.

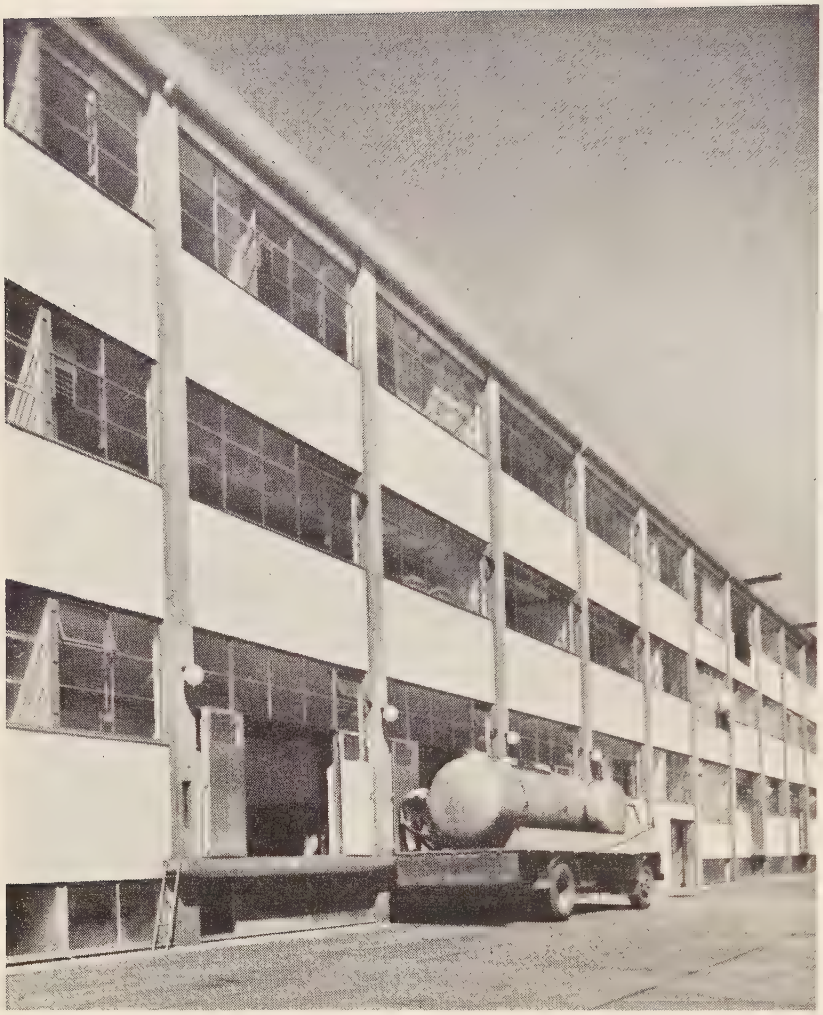
Baby Food and Newspapers

The flying kitchen is part of the SAS flight service, which has various other functions. One department has the job of finding out your special desires *in advance*. Every plane carries a supply of baby food; but if it is known that on a certain flight there will be a family with small children, the mother will be asked beforehand whether they require any special food. The company caters for special diets as desired, and if requests are made when the ticket is ordered, the rest is a matter of course. The stewardess is informed of the person's identity in advance, and knows what he cannot eat and what medicine he may need. Her medicine cabinet contains all general drugs, and special ones are obtained as required.

The flight service is also responsible for stocking the aircraft with smokes and with drinks ranging from milk and lemonade to beer and wine and liqueurs. A newspaper service provides the leading newspapers and magazines of the country of departure and, what is more, transfers them *en route* to planes flying back to that country, a service which enables returning travellers to learn what has been taking place in their absence and gives foreigners a chance to pick up useful information before arrival.

Various other things have been thought of to improve the journey. For example, the stewardess has a supply of toys for children of all ages, besides chewing gum, chocolate, and other delicacies. But above all she has a smile for everyone, as she comforts the smallest and encourages the nervous. Always on the go, never failing in helpfulness, she is the good friend and companion of every passenger.

The SAS bakery, also at Kastrup, produces daily 3,000 Danish pastries and a large selection of all manner of cakes and breads



The liquid milk is transported from the dairies to the preserving works by tank lorries

An Addition to the Diet

By Holger Ellert

Preserved milk and cream, products of milk from tuberculosis-free Danish cows, are being exported in large quantities to countries where milk is not usually a part of the daily diet, thereby providing a valuable addition of animal proteins

The export products of the Danish dairy industry, besides Lur-brand butter and cheese, also include preserved milk and cream, chiefly in the form of dried milk and condensed and evaporated milk and cream. The raw material of these products is full-cream milk from herds certified throughout the country as free from tuberculosis. Cooperative factories, equipped with all the latest machinery, operate alongside private firms which have produced condensed milk for many years. These Danish products have a worldwide reputation, and they can be sold in markets such as the Far East, where butter and cheese are luxuries obtainable only at expensive hotels.

A few figures will illustrate the scale of these exports. Production in 1955 totalled about 46,000 metric tons, compared with 43,000 tons the year before. Nearly all of this was exported: namely, 44,200 tons in 1955, and 41,000 tons in 1954. In the first half of 1956 the exports of dried milk were valued at about 35 million kroner; of condensed milk and cream, about 28 mill. kr. This is a slight increase on the previous year, when the combined exports for the whole twelve months totalled about 120 mill. kr.

Distribution of exports is widespread. In 1955, Europe took about 5,000 tons, North and South America 7,000 tons (including 3,500 tons by Brazil), and Africa 5,000 tons (including 1,800 tons by Algeria). Exports to Asia totalled 28,000 tons, including 3,700 tons to Burma, 4,200 tons India, 4,500 tons Siam, 3,000 tons French Indo-China, 4,500 tons Indonesia, and 6,000 tons British Malaya.

Condensed milk is the principal Danish dairy product exported to the Far East and South America, and the factories are at pains to produce a varied range of goods of the highest quality. There is a large potential market for milk products in many tropical countries because the daily diet is deficient in animal proteins. A small rise in the purchasing power of the densely populated countries of Asia would stimulate the demand for dried and condensed milk, since these products will tolerate long-distance transport and are excellent foods, especially for children. The people of such countries are now spending their small earnings on imported preserved milk, because they feel instinctively that it supplies a deficiency.

Pin-pointing Markets

The dairy industry has tried in various ways to pinpoint these distant markets, with a view to ensuring the best export service. It has carried out market research into Denmark's share of world trade in milk products, actual and potential. One of the results of this research was a recommendation to study the great potentialities of preserved milk exports in certain Eastern countries where big developments are in progress.

During the first few years after the war the United States sent large quantities of skim-milk powder to Asian countries for school meals, thereby introducing the younger generation to a new food. As a result, the consumption of this product later increased under normal commercial conditions.

The annual world trade in condensed and evaporated milk at the New Year, 1955, was estimated at 400,000 tons; of milk powder, 175,000 tons. Sixty per cent of the exported condensed milk goes to Asia, the exports of milk powder being more evenly distributed. As the figures show, there is a considerable market for these products.

One of the products of the modern Danish factories, where strict regulations governing hygiene and quality are enforced, is evaporated milk, which is full-cream milk of 7–9 per cent fat content evaporated and packed in hermetically sealed tins, sterilized by boiling

SIDELIGHTS ON DENMARK

End of Davy Crockett

The fox-tailed fur cap, the cowboy costume, and the sheriff's badge are on the way out among Danish boys, who are going in for Viking outfit with kirtle, helmet, shield, and sword. A Copenhagen woman inspired the idea.

New Engineering Feat

Air-conditioning plant can now be installed in a ship while she is still at sea. A Norwegian tanker on normal service was recently made fully air-conditioned in six weeks by the addition of a Danish air-cooling plant to her conventional heating and ventilating equipment. (See the article "It Started before the Flood" in DFOJ, No. 21.)

Gold-medal Textiles

Ten out of 13 textile specimens from Danish firms exhibited at the California State Fair were awarded gold medals. (See article in DFOJ, No. 19.).

Glass-house as Church

A trio of artists—a painter, a sculptor, and an architect—have designed a Danish church in the form of a coloured glass-house constructed on steel frames with sections two metres square. The east wall will be of yellow glass, the west wall blue-violet, the rest blue and green shot with red and clear glass.

Student Broadcast Station

Two undergraduate residents of a Copenhagen hostel, finding an ordinary internal loud-speaker installation too commonplace, constructed an inside radio station operating with a power of one watt on a wavelength of 1,025 metres. As the State Radio has a monopoly of public broadcasting, "Egmont Radio" must ensure that its broadcasts are not heard outside the building, but in fact they can occasionally be picked up. The interval signal is a phrase from Beethoven's Egmont Overture.

Path of the Dane . . .

Characteristically, it was in the aquatic events that Denmark was most successful at the Melbourne Olympic Games. The only medals obtained were in yachting and canoeing: Dinghy Finn Class (Paul Elvstrøm, gold), Dragon Class (Ole Berntsen, silver), and Women's Kayak Singles (Tove Søby, bronze).

Brewery Waste as Fodder

One of Copenhagen's greatly expanded breweries has reached a level of production which enables it to supply 65–70 tons of mash a day for animal feed.

Draughtsmen to be Busy

Roads totalling 650 kilometres (400 miles), two harbours on the Persian Gulf, and extensions to three harbours on the Caspian Sea are to be constructed by Danish engineers during the next four or five years, under a contract signed with Iran. The same firm built the Trans-Iranian Railway in the period 1933—39.

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after sealing. Another product is sweetened condensed milk. This is either evaporated full-cream milk of 7–10 per cent fat content, or skim milk preserved by the addition of sugar. It has the consistency of syrup and can be packed in tins, jars, or casks. Milk powder, which is full-cream or skim milk evaporated and dried, is packed in wooden boxes or air-tight bags, full-cream milk powder also in tins. The factories employ the latest automatic packing methods. The containers will withstand blows, humidity, and atmospheric changes, and the product will travel across the world without loss of quality.

The Danish dairy industry, through its exports of these products, is helping to supply a valuable food in concentrated form to countries where there is a shortage of it.

Buttons and Adhesives

A production associated with condensed milk is that of casein, the raw material of which is skim milk.

Rennet casein is used for galalith, which in turn is employed in the manufacture, among other things, of the finer buttons for women's wear. No other material combines so well with dyes as does casein.

Another form is acid casein, which has a wide range of applications, as an adhesive in the manufacture of plywood, as a paper-coating, as a coating for cheeses, even as a glaze for pastries. Casein-producing machines are also manufactured.

The quality of preserved milk products is checked in the laboratory

National Polio Campaign

Now that every Dane up to the age of 40 has been vaccinated against polio as part of the national campaign against the disease (see DFOJ, No. 20), the turn has come for those over 40, including overseas Danes visiting their home country.

Popular with the French

Holidaymaking in Denmark has become popular with the French, and a new and even bigger increase in the number of French visitors is expected next summer. Probably one of the reasons, in addition to friendly reception and good treatment, is the fact that from northern France it is cheaper to travel to Denmark than to the south of France.

Porcelain into Stockings

With dollars earned by selling Danish porcelain two brothers bought, nine years ago, sufficient nylon yarn to start the manufacture of ladies' stockings. Today they are turning out something like 30,000 pairs a day, and employ over 1,000 persons in Denmark alone—a considerable number in view of the highly mechanized character of the production. They have opened a branch in a former German aeroplane factory, and another in an "unemployment pocket" in Holland.

Iron-built Schools

Denmark, after supplying 12 hangars and 20 warehouses of steel to the rapidly developing Arab state of Kuwait, has recently delivered six iron-built schools.

Developing Machines

Developing machines for some of the world's largest photographic firms and special machines for developing X-ray films at hospitals are being supplied by a Danish photographic dealer, who has been awarded a diploma for his inventiveness.

The process takes an hour and twenty minutes, but the largest developer processes 360 films an hour.

Traffic Lines and Cars

White plastic traffic lines for marking roads, etc. are being exported from Denmark to countries all over the world. So far, patent rights have been sold in the United States and a number of Commonwealth countries.

A remarkable figure in the Danish export account was reached recently when, in one month, over 1,000 passenger cars were exported from assembly works in Denmark—half as many as were imported in the same month.

Automatic Steering Gear

Automatic steering gear of the type installed last year in the Danish royal yacht *Dannebrog* has developed into an important export line. While previous gear is based on the gyro-compass, this uses a magnetic compass. The electronic tube principle employed ensures exceptionally good steering. Two and a half times' shorter sailing time and a greater reduction in fuel consumption have been demonstrated, owing to fewer and smaller rudder movements and consequently less water resistance.

Modern Danish road with safety wall at the bend

Roads from Motor Taxes

By Walther Hjuler

Denmark's 33,000-mile network of roads is reputed to be among the world's best, and large sums are spent every year on maintaining, improving, and extending it.

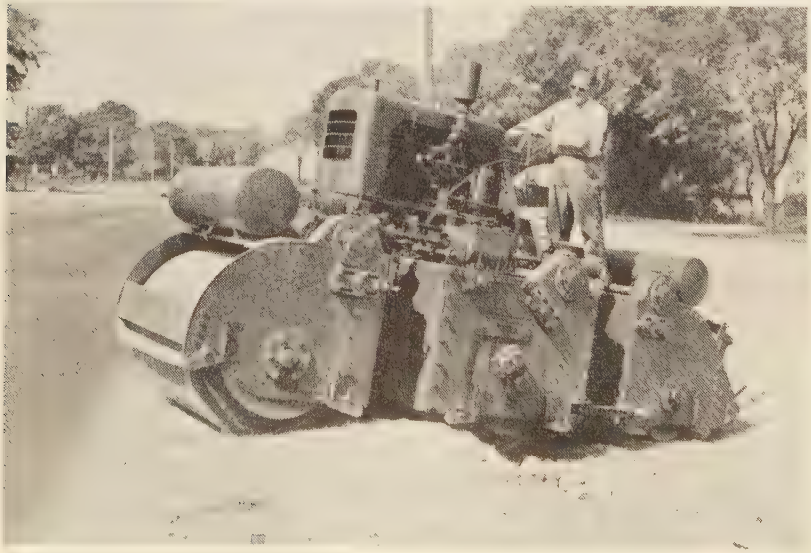
Main roads of non-ferro-concrete for fast through traffic are being constantly added to the network. All the latest roads are exclusively reserved for this steadily increasing traffic.

The clearest testimony to the quality of the network is the fact that nearly half of the secondary road mileage is asphalted.

Highly qualified technicians are in charge of maintenance. The central administration comes under a Road Directorate of the Ministry of Public Works, and research is carried out by a special Road Laboratory. The costs are partly covered by a Government Road Fund financed by taxes on cars and petrol.

Technicians have devoted particular attention to road surfacing, operating in recent years with a thin coating of bituminous material about half an inch thick. The material, consisting of fine chips, is factory-compounded with asphalt and laid while still warm. Experts have come from all over the world to study this surfacing technique.

Modern machines of Danish make are available for road-laying. A fair number of these are in operation abroad, including motor rollers which are considered to be the most up-to-date on the market. There is a variety of fully up-to-date Danish-designed spreading and surfacing machines for both concrete and asphalt.



Danish road roller, with scarifier; capable of dealing with very rough surfaces

ECONOMIC REVIEW

Moderate Optimism

The trend during the last months of 1956 seems to justify moderate optimism; most economic and statistical indicators suggest a slight improvement in, or at least stabilization of, economic conditions.

The harvest was 7—8 per cent larger than in 1955 and considerably above the average of the previous five years. Industrial production and building activity have slightly increased and both the unemployment percentage and the index of industrial employment are at the same level as, or show a small improvement on, the corresponding period of 1955.

The import surplus, it is true, was rather large during the autumn, but the terms of trade seem slightly more favourable than they were in the same period of 1955. The foreign exchange position improved by about 125 mill. kr. as between the end of August and the end of October. Although some of the improvement may be due to a quicker influx of sterling assets, influenced by the Suez crisis, it is certain that shipping earnings—owing to the rise in freight rates—together with tourist earnings, have largely offset the rise in the import surplus.

A preliminary survey covering the first three quarters of 1956 shows that there is a small deficit of about 50 mill. kr. in the balance of goods and services, due mainly to the heavy import surplus in the autumn. An estimate for the year 1956 as a whole indicates a deficit of between 100 and 200 mill. kr., as higher import prices and freight rates are expected to increase the deficit in the last months of the year.

Foreign Trade

		Imports	Exports	Import surplus	Volume index 1949 = 100	
		mill. kr.	mill. kr.	mill. kr.	Imports	Exports
12 months	1954.	8,034	6,550	1,484	160	173
	1955.	8,098	7,198	900	158	188
July–Sept.	1954.	2,015	1,595	420	161	170
	1955.	1,957	1,709	248	152	184
Oct.–Dec.	1954.	2,170	1,781	389	173	183
	1955.	2,142	1,994	148	168	197
Jan.–March	1955.	2,046	1,755	291	159	184
	1956.	2,014	1,820	194	154	184
April–June	1955.	1,953	1,741	212	155	186
	1956.	2,303	1,881	422	172	194
July–Sept.	1955.	1,957	1,709	248	152	184
	1956.	2,200	1,807	393	163	182

The Suez crisis and difficulties resulting from it may entail various changes in the economic situation. Owing to reduced supplies of mineral oils following the blocking of the canal, petrol rationing and restrictions on the use of fuel oil were introduced in the last week of November.

The first month of the 1956–57 session of the Folketing, which opened in the middle of October, contained nothing very remarkable. At the end of November the Minister of Finance presented the Budget for the fiscal year 1957. The revenue of the current and capital accounts is estimated at 5,003 mill. kr., and the expenditure 4,630 mill. kr., giving a surplus of 373 mill. kr.—about the same amount as in 1955–56. The Budget assumes that there will be no changes in direct taxes and duties.

Wholesale-Price and Cost-of-Living Indices

	Dec. 1955	March 1956	June 1956	Oct. 1956	Nov. 1956	Dec. 1956
Wholesale-price index (1935 = 100)	360	366	367	365	367	374
Including:						
Cereals and other vegetable food	348	361	376	343	347	352
Animal food	335	332	315	338	336	337
Fuel and mineral oil . .	505	537	546	546	546	599
Metals and metallic goods	345	351	348	357	359	358
Import goods	432	440	441	440	443	458
Export goods	370	343	328	353	346	348
Cost-of-living index[1] (1949 = 100)	410[2,5]	414[3,5]	419[4,5]	. . .	422[5]	. . .

1) Calculated quarterly for January, April, July, and October. 2) January 1956. 3) April. 4) July. 5) Not directly comparable with previous cost-of-living indices, owing to deduction of the value of savings bonds (*cf.* Act of March, 24, 1955).

Imports and exports were about 100 mill. kr. and 70 mill. kr. lower, respectively, in July–September than in April–June. The foreign trade balance, as in the previous quarter, was considerably higher than in the corresponding periods of 1955 and this trend continued in October-November; in these months the import surplus was 152 and 159 mill. kr. against 40 and 79 mill. kr. in 1955. The value of imports of tobacco, fuel (coal and coke), fertilizers, textiles, and transport equipment (mainly motor ships, aircraft, and motor cars) was larger in 1956 than in the same period of 1955. Exports of meat and of most of the traditional industrial commodities were higher.

Imports from West Germany, the United Kingdom and U. S. A. in July-November 1956, compared with 1955, increased respectively by about 170 mill., kr. 120, and 100 mill. kr., imports from Switzerland and the Netherlands by about 15 mill. kr. each. Exports to West Germany rose by about 100 mill. kr., exports to Sweden, France, and Italy by 30, 30, and 37 mill. kr., respectively.

The increase in imports and exports was not entirely due to higher prices, the import volume, in particular, being considerably higher than in the corresponding months of 1955.

The wholesale-price index showed a slight fall from 368 in July to 365 in October, but rose again to 374 in December, chiefly owing to sharp increases in the prices of fuel resulting from the Suez crisis. Owing to the good harvest, the prices of cereals and other vegetable food including potatoes were lower. They were extremely high throughout 1956–57, due to the very poor harvest in 1955.

Changes in the index of import goods up to November were insignificant; in December, influenced by the Suez crisis, import prices rose and the index was calculated at 458 against 440 in October. As export prices rose from 328 in June to 353 in October, there was an improvement in the terms of trade, but they deteriorated again in the following months, owing to the increasing import prices.

The cost-of-living index continued to rise during the autumn, from 419 in July to 422 in October. Wages and salaries are not adjusted according to the October index, but a rise of only one more point in the January index will involve an increase of 0.05 kr. an hour in wages, and a rise of two points will mean an increase of 10–16 kr. a month in civil service salaries.

The shipping freight index in the second half of 1956 was 3-10 per cent higher than in the corresponding months of 1955.

The trend in the index of industrial production has reflected increased production. While the figure in the first half of 1956 was lower, month by month, than in 1955, the 1955 level was reached in August–September. In October and November 1956 the index was 133 and 134 respectively, against 128 and 128 in 1955. The improvement was due mainly to textile and clothing manufactures (which fell heavily in 1955), machinery, and transport equipment, including ships and motor cars.

Production of milk, butter, cheese, and eggs in October-November was slightly higher than in October-November 1955. In the preceding 3–4 months it had been lower owing to poor grazing conditions in 1956. Bacon production was also higher compared with 1955, and the high level can be expected to continue in the forthcoming months. The index of the total livestock production in the two months was calculated at 136 and 134 against 129 and 137 in October 1955.

Unemployment, practically throughout 1956, was slightly higher than in the corresponding months of 1955—in October-November 1956, 7.4, 10.1 and 20.5 per cent, against 6.9, 9.8 and 22.5 in October-November 1955.

The net foreign debt (National Bank and commercial banks), after reaching the low level in March 1956 of 68 mill. kr., rose to 223 mill. kr. in August, falling again to 95 mill. kr. in November; in December, however, the net debt increased again to 152 mill. kr.

Net Foreign Debt
(National Bank and commercial banks)

	Total all banks mill. kr.	National Bank mill. kr.
Dec. 1954.	207	172
June 1955.	412	456
Aug. .	360	431
Sept. .	325	354
Oct. .	353	371
Dec. .	218	239
Mar. 1956.	68	130
June 1956.	196	246
Aug. .	223	302
Sept. .	173	248
Oct. .	98	168
Nov. .	95	145
Dec. .	152	232

Rates of Exchange: 100 Dan. kroner (kr.) approximately the equivalent of £5 or 14.50 U.S. dollars.

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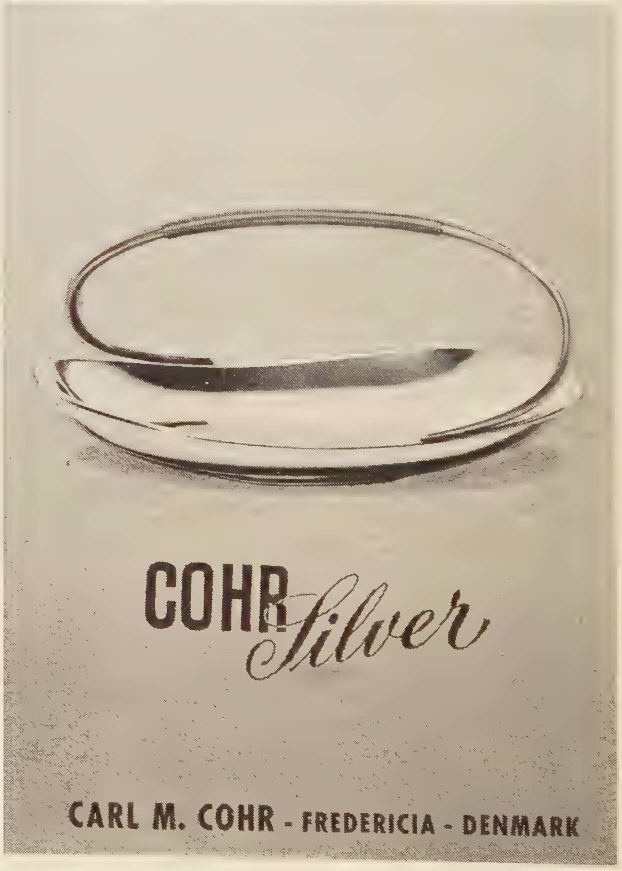

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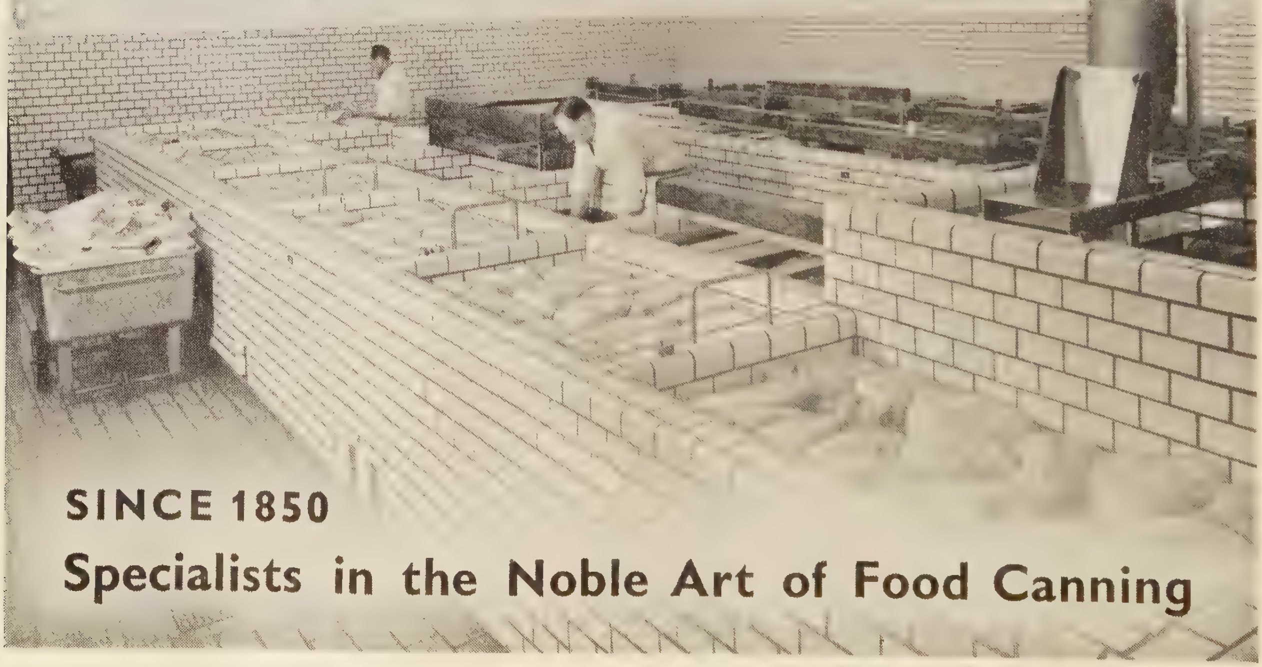

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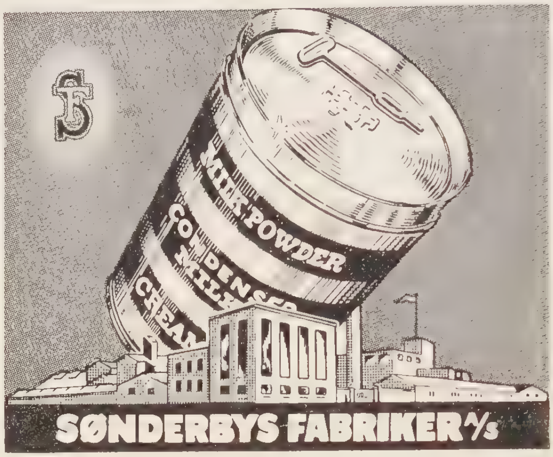
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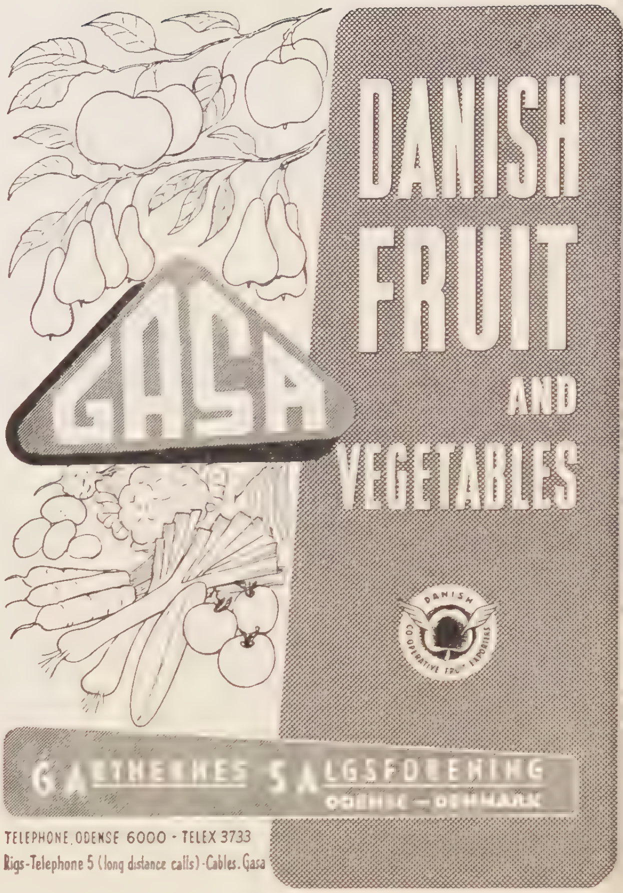
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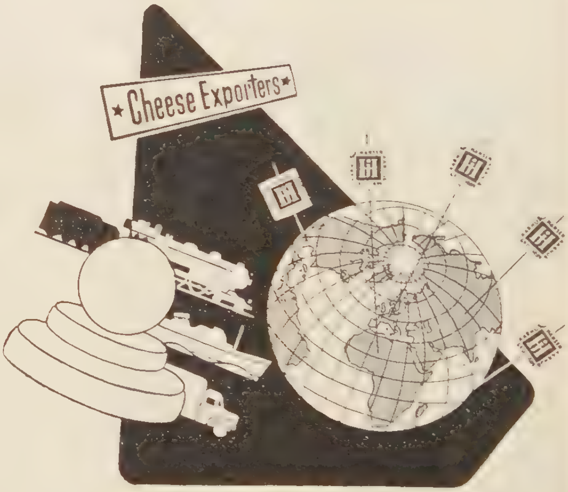
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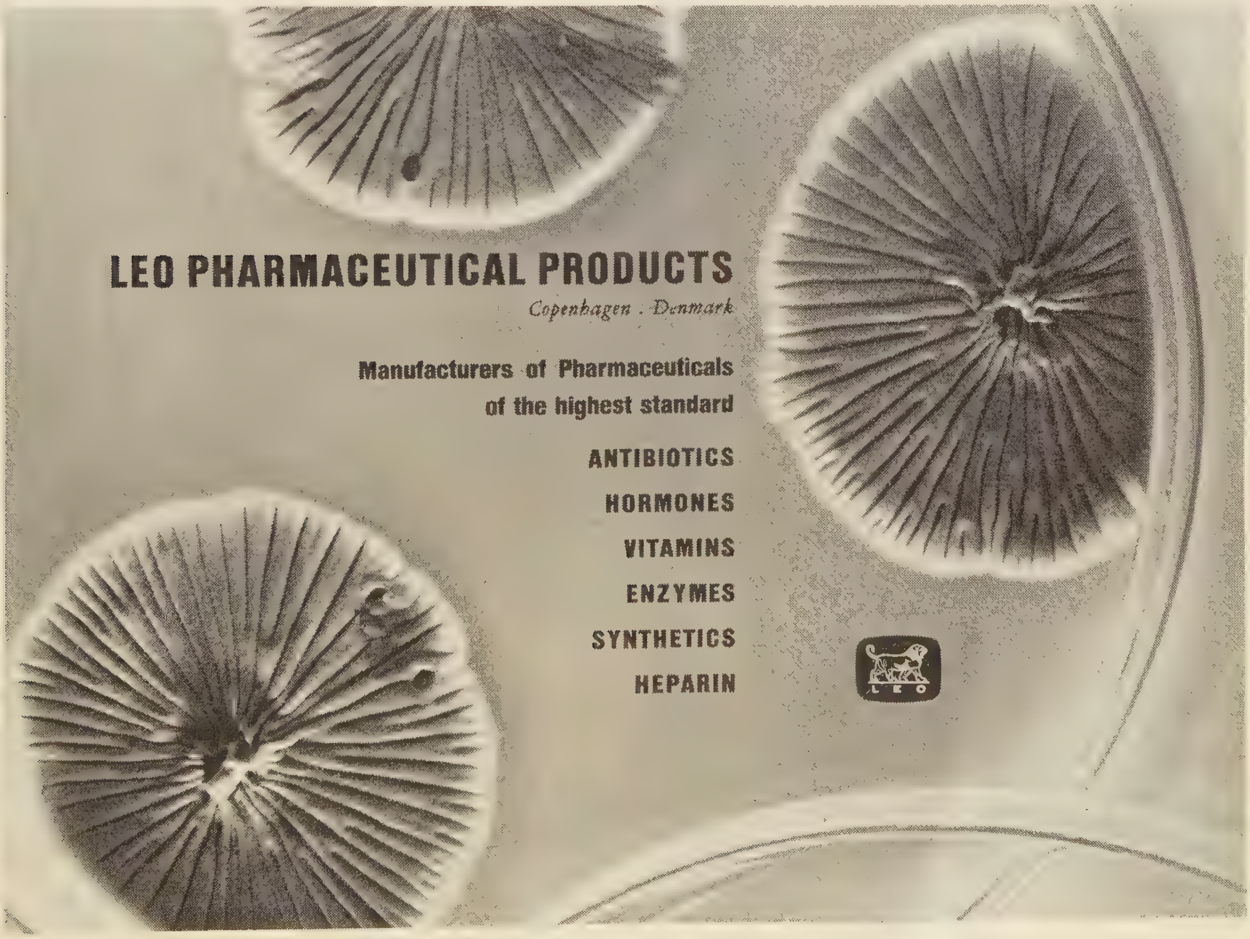

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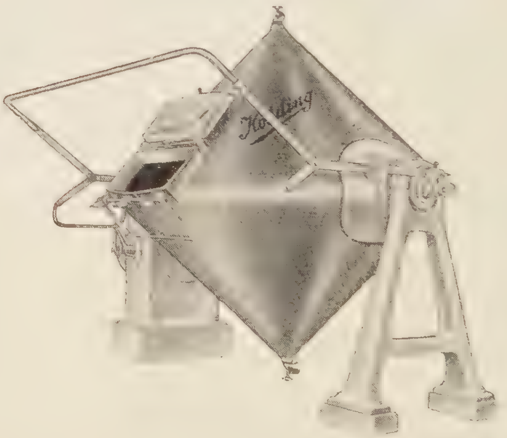

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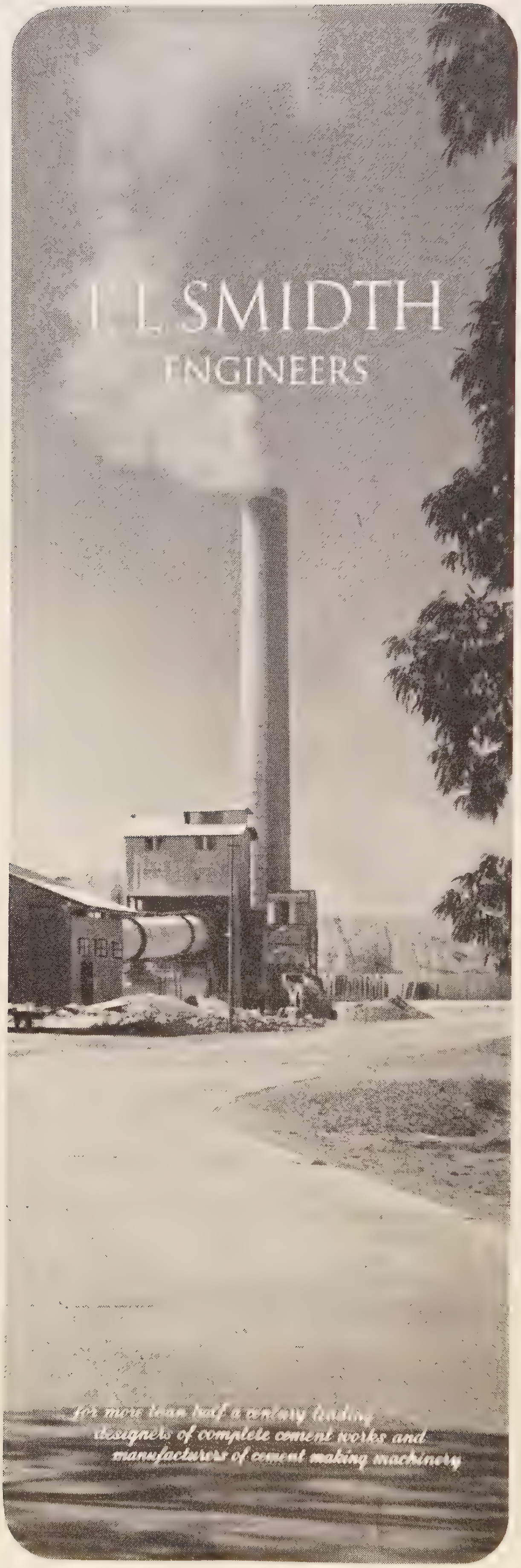
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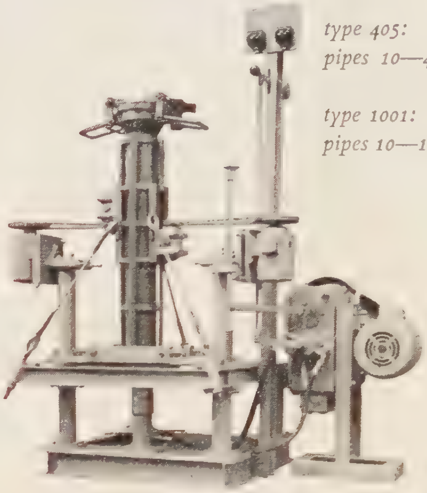

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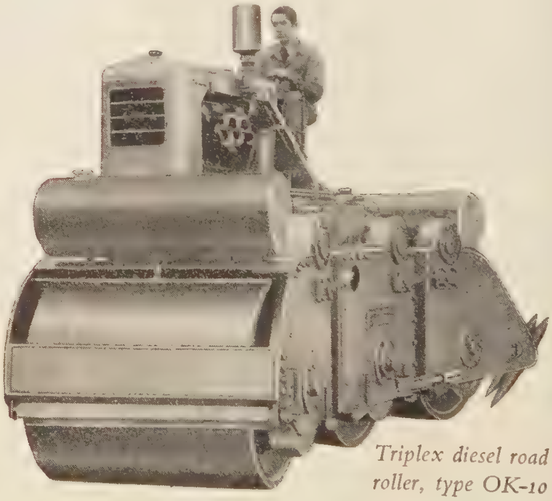

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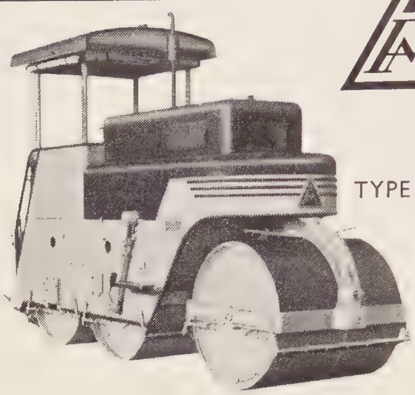

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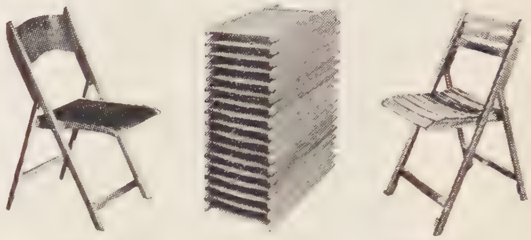

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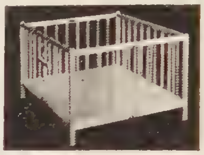

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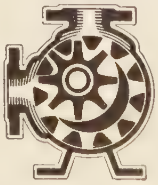

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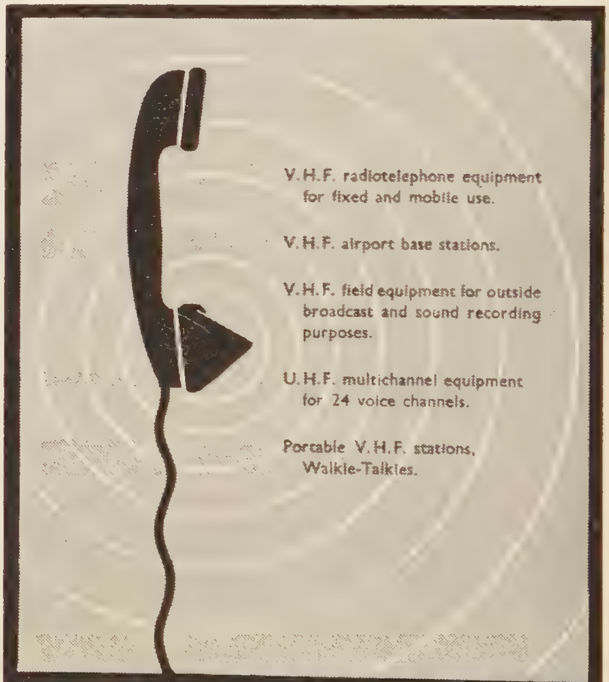

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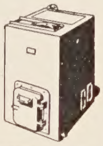

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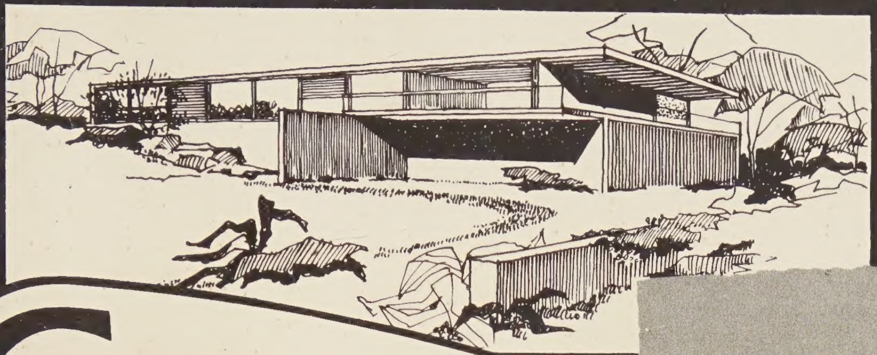

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